RG104 Entry 235

Volume 381

Letters Sent to

Secretary of Treasury

January 3, 1910 – December 30, 1910

Presscopies of letters and telegrams sent from U.S. Mint headquarters to various official and individual recipients.

This volume contains extracts of correspondence, but excludes routine bullion fund, transfer, and similar documents.

Text quality ranges from good to extremely faint. Tight binding also limits visability of the left side of some documents. Pages were scanned using a white back-up sheet to improve legibility.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE BUREAU OF THE MINT

Records of the Bureau of the Mint
Correspondence

LETTERS SENT, 1873-1917

Vol. 381 of 600

NC-152, Entry 235

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Treas

January 3, ~~1909.~~ 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of Frank M. Downer, Superintendent of the Mint at Denver, Colorado, the sum of twenty-five thousand seven hundred and twenty-three dollars and eighty-nine cents ($25,723.89) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of that amount.

Respectfully,

A B Preston

Acting Director of the Mint

2

January 3, ~~1904~~ 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month and the quarter ended December 31, 1909, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

R. W. Roberts

Acting Director of the Mint.

See letter Director Jany 6th to Secty Treasy.

3

January 19, 1910.

My dear Mr. Carlin:

I submitted to the Director of the Mint, as you know, the question raised by the delegation from Alexandria in asking for a recommendation to Congress for the enactment of House Bill 16,229, and I send you a copy of his report. Notwithstanding the friendly sentiment that I feel toward the undertaking of the Washington Monument Association in Alexandria, and the very agreeable impression that the delegation made upon me when they called with you, I am bound to say that I cannot see my way to dispute the conclusions that Director Andrew has reached. The authority rests in this case, however, with Congress.

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin MacVeagh

Secretary.

Hon. Charles C. Carlin,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

4

, January 29, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a series of interrogatories prepared by the Director of the Mint, regarding the production, coinage, and industrial consumption of gold and silver, as well as other monetary matters, and to request that a copy of the same be transmitted to the Ambassadors and Ministers of the United States accredited to the several foreign countries. I have also to request that a copy be sent to the following Consulates of the United States:-

Adelaide, Australia,
Melbourne, do
Brisbane, Queensland,
Perth, Western Australia,
Auckland, New Zealand,
Hobart, Tasmania,
Newcastle, New South Wales,
Cayenne, French Guiana,
Demerara, British Guiana,
Paramaribo, Dutch Guiana,
Ottawa, Canada,
Cape Town, Africa,
Johannesburg, South Africa,
Ale[illegible]dria, Egypt,
Cai[illegible], do
Mukden, China,
Shanghai, do
Hongkong, do

Calcutta, India,
Bombay, do
Singapore, Straits Settlements,
Tamatave, Madagascar,
Athens, Greece,
Adis Ababa, Abyssinia,
Tangier, Morocco,
Monrovia, Liberia,
Aden, Arabia,
Maskat, Oman, Arabia,
British North Borneo, Brit. India,
Zanzibar, Zanzibar,
Teheran, Persia,
Kongo Free States,
Seoul, Korea,
Panama, Panama,
San Jose, Costa Rica,
Habana, Cuba.

The information to be elicited by the interrogatories is for the use of the Bureau of the Mint, which has for many years, collected and published statistics relating to the production of gold and silver, and monetary matters in general.

It is respectfully suggested that the following possible sources of information regarding these subjects be enumerated for the guidance of the foreign representatives to whom these enquiries are addressed:- Government treasuries, finance departments, and mints, statistical bureaus, mining and geological bureaus, boards of trade, or commerce, customs bureaus, scientific societies, especially mining and engineering, also technical experts of recognized standing.

This suggestion is made for the reason that sometimes in the case of past enquiries when it has been found impossible to get information from one source, the enquiries were dropped although the data might have been obtained elsewhere.

It will greatly facilitate the compilation of the statistics if you will kindly give instructions that the replies to interrogatories be forwarded, at the earliest possible date, direct to Mr. Piatt Andrew, Director of the Mint, Treasury Department, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Respectfully,

C. Mills

Acting Secretary.

6

January 31, 1910.

Dear Mr. President:

I enclose a draft of a communication to Congress transmitting the recommendations of the Director of the Mint, and copies of the Director's memorandum and letter addressed to me containing the proposition and argument.

Hoping that this will meet your suggestions, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Franklin MacVeagh

The President.

Enclosures.

February 2, 1910.

Hon. Charles H. Weisse,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo requesting to be informed as to the amount of silver bullion on hand June 30, 1897, and the cost of the same; the amount puechased from June 30, 1897, to June 30, 1909, and the amount of uncoined silver on hand at the present time. In reply the following is respectfully submitted:-

The balance of silver bullion on hand June 30, 1897, purchased under the act of July 14, 1890, was 115,438,461.98 fine ounces, costing $104,336,312.48. The amount on hand purchased for subsidiary silver coinage was 303,579.77 ounces fine, costing $201,215.32. The amount of bullion resulting from the melting of uncurrent subsidiary silver coin on hand June 30, 1897, was 1,038,923.94 fine ounces, with a coining value of $1,436,217.58. The amount of silver purchased for subsidiary silver coinage from June 30, 1897, to June 30, 1909, amounted to 38,110,864.28 fine ounces, costing $22,904,674.35. There were purchased from July 1, 1909, to December 30, 1909, for subsidiary silver coinage, 1,152,258.42 fine ounces costing $662,702.37. The balance of purchased silver bullion on hand January 1, 1910, was 5,009,085.32 fine ounces, costing $2,847,080.40. The balance of bullion resulting from the melting of uncurrent subsidiary silver coin for recoinage was 566,329.46 fine ounces, of the coining value of $770,456.96 in new coin.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

January 4, 1910.

Chief Clerk,

Treasury Department.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find Form C.A.-1 and C.A.-2 a for George McNally, employed in the Mint at Philadelphia.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

acting Director of the Mint.

K-

(2 enclosures)

2

January ~~5~~ 4, 1910.

Chief Clerk,

Treasury Department.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith please find C.A.-2a for George H. Reiterman, an employe in the Mint at San Francisco.

Respectfully,

R. O. Johnston

acg Director of the Mint.

K-

(Enclosure)

3

January 4, 1910.

Chief Clerk,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

I am enclosing herwwith Form C.A.-1 report on accidental injury to the following employes in the Assay Office at Helena:-

Colin S. Hill.
Allen Newton.

Respectfully,

R O Brooks
Acting Director of the Mint.

K-

(2 enclosures)

272

January 5, 1910.

Honorable A. J. Barchfeld,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo enclosing a communication from Mr. L. S. Levin, President of the George Junior Republic Association of Western Pennsylvania, stating that it had been decided by the citizens of the Republic to adopt aluminum as the coinage of the George Junior Republic Association and to circulate one dollar, half and quarter dollar pieces, and nickels, dimes and cents. Mr. Levin further states that he would like to have the dies and this coinage executed at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, as a donation to the Republic.

In reply you are respectfully informed that the execution of this proposed coinage by the George Junior Republic Association would be a violation of Section 5461 and Section 5462, Revised Statutes of the United States, and also of the Act of February 10, 1891, a copy of which Act is enclosed herewith.

The letter of Mr. Levin's enclosed by you is returned herewith.

Respectfully,

Signed C. D. Norton.

Acting Secretary.

January 5, 1910.

Honorable A. J. Barchfeld,
House of Repbesentatives.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo enclosing a communication from Mr. L. S. Levin President of the George Junior Republic Association of Western Pennsylvania, stating that it had been decided by the citizens of the Republic to adopt aluminum as the coinage of the George Junior Republic Association and to circulate one dollar, half and quarter dollar pieces, and nickels dimes and cents. Mr. Levin further states that he would like to have the dies and this coinage executed at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, as a donation to the Republic.

In reply you are respectfully informed that the execution of this proposed coinage by the George Junior Republic Assocoation would be a violation of Section 5461 and Section 5462, Revised Statutes of the United States, and also of the Act of February 10, 1891, a copy of which act is enclosed herewith.

The letter of Mr. Levin's enclosed by you is returned herewith.

Respectfully,

Charles D. Norton

Acting Secretary.

10

January 6, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of eighty thousand dollars ($80,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said mint be increased by a transfer of that amount.

Respectfully,

R B Preston

acting Director of the Mint.

11

January 6, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to circular letter of the 6th ultimo requesting to be informed as to the character of official requests for information received from members of either house of Congress by this Bureau, I have the honor to report that by far the greater number received are for information on the production of the precious metals and the coinage. Occasionally letters refer to the personnel of the Mint service.

Respectfully,

R. B. Watts
Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 6, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

Referring to the request of Mr. Carlin and the delegation from Alexandria that you recommend to Congress the enactment of H.R. 16229, which contemplates the coinage of three hundred thousand Washington Memorial half dollars in six different designs for the benefit of the Washington Monument Association in Alexandria, I have the honor to submit the following considerations:

That the establishment of a sound and adequate monetary system is a distinct governmental obligation; that it ought to involve consideration of only two objects, the maintenance of the standard and the provision of a convenient and sufficient circulating medium, and that the making of appropriations to meet the expenses of national or of local undertakings ought never to be confused with legislation concerning the country's currency. Our government has on several occasions, under the unfortunate exigencies of war, been obliged to issue fiduciary money as a means of meeting extraordinary expenditures. Except under stress of war, however, our government, until the year 1892, had never employed the money making function for the purpose of making contributions to or defraying the expenses of national or local undertakings.

In that year Congress, in connection with the appropriation which it voted for the Columbian Exposition, established the precedent for such action by authorizing the coinage of two and one half million dollars in Columbian half dollars, and in 1893, ten thousand dollars in Columbian quarter dollars for the board of lady managers. The price at which the half dollars were to be sold was fixed by the Exposition Company at one dollar, and the quarter dollars were sold for seventy-five cents each. Of the half dollars nearly one million five hundred thousand dollars were returned to the Treasury unsold. The market seems to have absorbed the Columbian quarter dollars.

In 1899 Congress authorized the coinage of fifty thousand silver dollars for the purpose of aiding in defraying the cost of a pedestal, and completing in a suitable manner the work of erecting a monument in the city of Paris to General Lafayette, designed by the Lafayette Memorial Commission, as a feature of the participation of the United States in the Paris Exposition of 1900. The Secretary of the Treasury was authorized to purchase twenty-five thousand dollars worth of silver bullion or so much thereof as might be necessary for the purpose of coining fifty thousand pieces to be known as the Lafayette dollar, struck in commemoration of the erection of a monument to General Lafayette. The bullion was purchased and fifty thousand dollars of the special design coined. They were delivered to the Lafayette Memorial Commission who fixed the price at which these coins were to be sold at the rate of $2.00 each. It is understood that there are about eleven thousand of these pieces remaining unsold.

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In 1902 Congress authorized the coinage of two hundred and fifty thousand gold dollars to be known as the Louisiana Purchase Exposition gold dollar, struck in commemoration of said Exposition. The coins were to be treated as a part of the $5,000,000 appropriated by Congress under the Act of March 3, 1901, for carrying on the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. These two hundred and fifty thousand pieces were coined at the Mint, Philadelphia. One hundred and twenty-five thousand of these coins bore on the obverse the head of Jefferson and one hundred and twenty-five thousand bore the head of McKinley. The Exposition Company fixed the price at which these coins were to be sold at $3.00 each. It is understood that a large number of the coins remain unsold.

In 1904 Congress authorized the coinage of not to exceed two hundred and fifty thousand gold dollars to be known as the Lewis and Clark gold dollar, struck in commemoration of the Lewis and Clark Centennial Exposition. These pieces were to be delivered to the Lewis and Clark Exposition Company by the Secretary of the Treasury at par. The price fixed by the Company at which these pieces were to be sold was $2.00. Sixty thousand of the two hundred and fifty thousand pieces authorized were coined in the Mint at Philadelphia. Of this number twenty-five thousand dollars remained in the Mint at Philadelphia uncalled for and were subsequently remelted; fifteen thousand dollars were sent to the Mint at San Francisco and remelted.

The plan contemplated by the gentlemen from Alexandria in one respect goes beyond all of these precedents. It is proposed to issue six different kinds of coins at one time for this special purpose, while upon no previous occasion have more than two new coins been issued. If the coins were issued at par they could, of course, be made to circulate if they were not at once absorbed by collectors, in which case we should

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have six new varieties of half dollars in our currency. The plan multiplies the opportunities for counterfeiting; but above all it is objectionable because it is a fundamental perversion of the coinage functions. If a silver coin is to be issued at a fictitious value for the benefit of local undertakings, why might we not be asked to go further and authorize the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to issue commemorative bills for the benefit of worthy undertakings, an arrangement by which money could more easily be raised, and at less expense? I cannot help thinking that if Congress desires to appropriate money for this or any other purpose it should do so directly and not through this dangerously easy and surreptitious use of the money providing function of Government.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

16

January 6, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to circular letter of the 6th ultimo requesting to be advised as to the character of information given either House of Congress, any committee of either House of Congress, or any Member of Congress, I have the honor to report that no information is furnished direct to either House of Congress, letters being prepared for the signature of the Secretary of the Treasury if required. No information is given to a committee of either House of Congress except through the Secretary of the Treasury. Letters received from members of either House of Congress, requesting that copies of the reports of this Bureau be forwarded to constituents are replied to directly, and reports forwarded as requested. Replies relative to the production of the precious metals and the coinage operations are made to Senators and Members direct. Inquiries from Senators and Members relative to appointments in the Mint service are replied to direct. Frequently Senators and Members enclose letters from constituents requesting statistical information and this is supplied to the constituents direct, and the Senator or Member advised.

Respectfully,

A. A. Ramsey

Acting Director of the Mint.

Jan. 10, 1910

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

Have you ever thought of the possibility of employing someone in the Treasury building who was able to translate documents and materials from the more important languages? From the Mint Bureau we send out inquiries every year to the leading European countries and secure responses which are in most cases returned in a foreign language. It would be a great convenience to us and would conduce to accuracy in our statistical work if there were someone in the building to whom we could apply for the translation of this material. We have, furthermore, to consult and tabulate material from the reports of the mints in other countries and this also requires translation. I presume that the Customs Division requires a large amount of similar work; I know that the Comptroller of the Currency, in preparing his report also requires such assistance, and I am told that the Division of Internal Revenues and the Mails and Files Division also require the services from time to time of a translator. I am wondering whether there would not perhaps be enough of such work in the different divisions of the Treasury Department to occupy the greater part of one person's time, and if not, whether some person could not be employed in the capacity of a librarian or in some other similar capacity, who could render such service to the different divisions and bureaus when desired.

Director of the Mint

25

January 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you herewith the report on the production of gold and silver in the United States and the world for the calendar year 1908, together with such information as to their distribution, coinage and consumption as this Bureau has been able to gather. The returns for the United States have been secured through officials of the Mint Service and the United States Geological Survey. The aggregate of precious metals reported have been traced from production to market. The figures are therefore conservative, but are believed to be correct. The statistics for foreign countries are obtained from official sources wherever governmental calculations are made, and where such returns can not be had the best obtainable estimates are given and the authority stated.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

Jan. 10, 1916

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

The suggested amendment to Section 3586 of the Revised Statutes concerning the weighing of the subsidiary coins, if adopted, would eliminate a considerable amount of unnecessary labor and would accordingly save considerable unnecessary expense in our several mints.

The present law, after providing for an acceptable deviation from the standard weight of one and one-half grains in the case of the individual half-dollar, quarter-dollar or dime, requires that in delivering them in quantity the heavy and light pieces within the accepted limit of tolerance shall be so mixed that the deviation in the total shall not exceed two-hundredths of an ounce in one thousand half-dollars or quarter-dollars and one-hundredth of an ounce in one thousand dimes. In other words, according to the regulations for the single pieces there may be a deviation of 1500 grains from the standard in one thousand halves (weighing 192,900 grains) or in one thousand quarters (weighing 96,450 grains) or in one thousand dimes (weighing 38,580 grains) while the regulations for deliveries in quantities allow only a deviation of 9.6 grains from the standard in one thousand half-dollars or quarter-dollars and 4.8 grains in one thousand dimes. It will be easily understood that such a requirement involves not only a careful weighing of the indidivual pieces, which is obviously important, but a laborious and expensive separation and mixing of the heavy and light acceptable coins, which, in the case of our very much over-valued subsidiary currency, is quite

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Jan. 10, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you recommend to Congress that Section 3536 of the Revised Statutes of the United States be amended by striking out of said section the words "And in weighing (a) large number of pieces together, when delivered by the coiner to the superintendent, and by the superintendent to the depositor, the deviations from the standard weight shall not exceed two-hundredths of an ounce in one thousand dollars, half-dollars, or quarter dollars, and one-hundredth of an ounce in one thousand dimes."

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

18

January 11, 1910.

The President

of the Senate.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit to you the enclosed letter from the Director of the Mint dated January 10, 1910, and addressed to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, requesting him to recommend to Congress an administrative amendment to Section 3536 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, also the enclosed memorandum, signed by the Director of the Mint and dated January 10, 1910, explaining the necessity for the proposed change. I beg to invite your attention to this letter and memorandum and to recommend the administrative amendment indicated by the Director of the Mint.

Respectfully,

Charles D. Norton

Acting Secretary.

19

January 11, 1910.

The Speaker of the

House of Representatives.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit to you the enclosed letter from the Director of the Mint dated January 10, 1910, and addressed to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, requesting him to recommend to Congress an administrative amendment to Section 3536 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, also the enclosed memorandum, signed by the Director of the Mint and dated January 10, 1910, explaining the necessity for the proposed change. I beg to invite your attention to this letter and memorandum and to recommend the administrative amendment indicated by the Director of the Mint.

Respectfully,

Charles D. Norton

Acting Secretary.

unnecessary.

In the Philadelphia Mint at the present time, on account of the supposed obligation entailed by this provision of law, every quarter-dollar and half-dollar passing out of the Mint is subjected to three separate weighings, two by machinery and one by hand. In 1907 there were issued from our mints 11,651,175 half-dollars and 15,596,575 quarter-dollars. If we could avoid the triple weighing of this large number of pieces we could effect a considerable economy and the elimination of this unnecessary provision with regard to the deliveries of subsidiary silver in quantity would, I believe, save the government at least $30,000. per year.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

23

January 12,1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.
(Division of Printing & Stationary.)

Sir:

Please furnish this office with twenty (20) books of transportation requests for the use of this Bureau.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

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24

January 12, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of seven hundred and thirty-two thousand five hundred and eighteen dollars and twenty-six cents ($732,518.26) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased by a transfer of that amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

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January 19, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 7th instant requesting that an employee of this office be designated to become a member of a committee to be appointed for the purpose of taking up the question of the adoption of a standard system adaptable to all needs for filing and indexing documents and papers, I have the honor to report that I have designated Mr. A. A. Hassan to represent this Bureau.

The following statement describes the system now in use in this Office:-

Letters and other correspondence are stamped with date of receipt and given a file number, a rotary stamp being used. They are then entered in Register of Letters Received, by subjects, tagged to represent the different offices in the Mint Service, and also miscellaneous correspondence. After being acted upon the letters are filed in Woodruff patent file boxes, 4½ inches in width, 10½ inches in height, 11 inches in length, outside measurements. During the calendar year 1909 there were received and filed 12,364 letters and other papers, 32 Woodruff boxes being used, occupying a space of 44 inches in height, 35 inches in length, with a depth of 11 inches, or about 9.8 cubic feet.

One clerk, who also performs other duties, is engaged in this work.

Respectfully,

26

Jan. 19, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The estimates for Contingent Expenses, Mint at Philadelphia fiscal year 1911 contain a provision for "not exceeding five hundred dollars in value of specimen coins for the cabinet of the mint." I would respectfully request that you recommend that this amount be increased so as to read "not to exceed twenty-five hundred dollars in value of specimen coins for the cabinet of the Mint." This change in the distribution of the Contingent will enable us to purchase medals and specimens which should be added to the numismatic collection in the Mint at Philadelphia and does not increase the total amount requested for "Contingent Expenses, Mint at Philadelphia, 1911."

It is not intended to purchase rare coins and curios, but such coins and medals as can be obtained abroad at small prices, from the foreign mints for instance, as would be useful in an effort to raise the standard of designing in the mints.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew
per

Director of the Mint

S-

27

Jan. 19, 1910

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON:

If I interpret correctly the general drift of Mr. Ludlow's memorandum, he also agrees that there ought to be somewhere in the Department a translator to whom appeal could be made from any office for translation from the more important languages. Mr. Garner, to whom he refers as a competent translator formerly employed in the Mint Bureau at a salary of $1,800, left the service two years ago because he regarded the salary as inadequate. On that account the suggestion of Mr. McCoy "to obtain a clerk in the regular way possessing the desired qualifications in addition to the regular requirements" is probably not apt to be realized. As I stated in the memorandum of January 10th, it appears that the Comptroller of the Currency, the Customs Division, the Division of Internal Revenues and the Mails and Files Division all from time to time require the services of a translator and if I am correctly informed about these offices it would seem at least worth inquiring whether there is not at present in some of the Bureaus a person qualified in languages whose services might be made available for the other Bureaus from time to time.

JPA

28

Jan. 20, 1910

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

Before any steps have been definitively taken which will result in moving the Mint Bureau to another part of the Treasury Building I hope that I may have an opportunity of consulting about the proposed changes. I have asked Mr. Taylor in regard to them and he says that the matter is in your hands and is under consideration at the present moment by one Philip Sawyer, an architect in New York.

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January 24, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of Edward Sweeny, Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, the sum of twenty thousand ($20,000) dollars, on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the minor coinage metal fund of said mint be debited with this amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

30

Jan. 28, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

As word has been received from Professor Charles R. Sanger of Harvard University that he will be unable to attend the meeting of the Assay Commission in Philadelphia on February 9th I would recommend the appointment of Dr. Edward D. Peters, professor of Metallurgy at Harvard College, who is a high authority upon the subject and who would accept the appointment. It is advisable that we have an additional member of the Commission who is technically equipped to conduct its work.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

S-

31

February 1, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month ended January 31, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

B. F. Burdon
Acting Director of the Mint.

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Feb. 3, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

Replying to the communication from Honorable Reed Smoot inviting suggestions from the Treasury Department relative to changes in the printing laws I would suggest that in the Bureau of the Mint we have been put to some inconvenience through the ruling of the Comptroller of the Treasury that under the present law the Public Printer could no longer honor the requisitions of the Bureau in the matter of wrapping our reports. The law of March 4, 1907 authorizes the printing and binding of 2,000 copies of the Report of the Director of the Mint on the operations of the Mint Service and 2,000 copies of the Report on the Production of Precious Metals. It would be a convenience if provision could be made for the wrapping of these reports at the Government Printing Office.

Respectfully,

O. Kent Cochran

Director of the Mint

S-

34

Feb. 3, 1910

Memorandum for Mr. Norton, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury:

I would suggest inquiring somewhat further from Mr. Vilas as to the conditions governing the handling of the public funds in Seattle. The natural method for meeting his needs would seem to be an increase in the Government deposits with the Seattle banks. It is possible, however, that, owing to the peculiarly sudden withdrawals to which those deposits might be subject in Seattle, the banks would not agree to offer sufficient collateral to cover such deposits. On this account I would suggest sending to Mr. Vilas some such inquiry as that enclosed herewith.

A Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

33

Feb. 4, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

As word has been received from Professor Edgar F. Smith, of the University of Pennsylvania that he will be unable to attend the meeting of the Assay Commission in Philadelphia on February 9th I would recommend the appointment of Dr. G. L. Shinn of the Chemical Staff at the University of Pennsylvania, who is an authority on the subject and who would accept the appointment. It is advisable that we have an additional member of the Commission who is technically equipped to conduct its work,

Respectfully,

A. Barber

Director of the Mint

S-

35

February 5, 1910.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I will thank you to cause the seal of the Department to be placed upon the enclosed certificate as to the value of the Venezuelan Bolivar during the period from October 1, 1905 to December 31, 1905, as requested by Mr. Adam K. Stricker, 37 Wall Street, New York City, for use in a case pending in the Supreme Court of New York.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

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February 5,1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, the sum of One Hundred Thousand dollars ($100,000) on account of profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces and that the recoinage account of said Mint be increased by a transfer of this amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

K-

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February 11, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of two hundred and forty-three thousand five hundred and ninety-six dollars and eighty-four cents($243,596.84) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

288682

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Feb. 14, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Sir:

The Curator of the Coin Collection in the Philadelphia Mint is importing a series of medals from France and other countries for exhibition in that collection. These medals are subject to a duty of 45% unless this provision is waived. He desires me to request that these medals intended for exhibition in the Mint be allowed to enter free of duty.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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Feb. 14, 1910

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury:

During my visit to Philadelphia last week I arranged with the Superintendent to furlough 22 of the women adjusters beginning with March 1st. It is my hope that hereafter in the Mint at Philadelphia the weight of the over-heavy blanks can be reduced by machinery and that the process of filing such blanks by hand will never be restored. I have arranged for the immediate construction of four additional automatic weighing machines and hope that it will not again be necessary to weigh the coins or the blanks by hand as has hitherto been the custom. In this case the 22 women to be furloughed on March 1st will be practically retired from the service. This step will probably cause some protest but the adjusters were warned six weeks ago that their tenure of office was uncertain.

Inasmuch as 16 of the automatic coin feeds will be in operation by February 19th the Superintendent of the Mint and the Coiner agree that 13 employees can be dispensed with from the coining room and I have asked them accordingly to recommend a list of those employees of the Mint whose services can be most advantageously dispensed with. These measures, when carried out, will effect a reduction of 35 employees in the Philadelphia Mint. I have warned Senator Penrose that the step is about to be taken because he will doubtless be pestered with complaints.

Director of the Mint.

Feb. 15, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The question has arisen as to the expediency of granting leave of absence with pay to the employees in the mint service outside of Washington in excess of the 30 days regular leave. According to present custom employees in the several mints and assay offices are allowed annually 30 days leave on account of sickness in addition to the regular 30 days leave in the same way as are clerks in the executive departments at Washington. It is assumed that Department Circular No. 52, dated July 7, 1908 is applicable to these employees as well as to those in Washington under the Act of March 3, 1893, as amended by the Act of March 15, 1898. I suspect that this allowance frequently results in unnecessarily prolonged absence from service and there appear to be some reasons for doubting the applicability of the laws cited in the case of employees outside of Washington (See Decisions of the Comptroller of the Treasury, Vol. XIV, pages 413-414).

Specific acts have been passed governing the leave of absence of employees in the Customs service and in the Bureau of Engraving and as the work of the Mint service is essentially of a manufacturing character involving a large number of employees, this branch of the service would seem to be upon the same footing and to require similar regulation. Before giving further consideration to possible

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measures for curtailing the privileges and abuses incident to leave of absence I should be glad if the question could be referred to the Comptroller of the Treasury for decision as to the pertinence of the Acts above mentioned to the force employed in the Mint service outside of Washington.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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Feb. 15, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

According to Section 3548 of the Revised Statutes the standard weight employed for regulating the coinage in all of the mints of the United States for the last 83 years has been the brass troy-pound weight procured by the Minister of the United States at London in the year 1827 and now in the custody of the Mint at Philadelphia. I am informed that brass weights have not been used as standards in other departments of this government, nor in European countries for several decades but have been superseded by weights of iridio-platinum, the reason being that brass is liable to a process of oxidation which almost inevitably tends toward an increase of weight with the lapse of time. So far as I can discover our brass troy-pound in Philadelphia has never been subjected to direct test to determine whether or not it may have undergone variations with the lapse of time. Inasmuch, however, as our government has a Bureau of Standards it would appear appropriate that the determination of the standard to be employed in the mints should be delegated to this Bureau. I would therefore suggest that you request the President to recommend to Congress the repeal of Section 3548 of the Revised Statutes inasmuch as such repeal will remove the mint standard from its exceptional position and will practically place the determination of our standard in the charge of the Bureau of Standards.

Respectfully,

R. Preston Gaillard

Director of the Mint.

Feb. 15, 1910

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

I observe that last week a bill passed the Senate to establish an assay office at Los Angeles and I am of the opinion that perhaps it would be advisable to inform the President and the Speaker of the House that this Department still believes that the establishment of new assay offices ought to be discouraged. When the Government instituted the policy of establishing assay offices in the various mining districts these districts were poorly supplied with transportation and banking facilities and the production of gold was principally from placer mines worked by individual miners, who were compelled to dispose of their product at a heavy discount. Under such conditions the opening of a Government assay office in the locality where the miner could dispose of his product at its coinage value undoubtedly preserved the miner from unnecessary losses and offered substantial encouragement to the mining industry. At present, however, with railways and express companies convenient to all mining districts the miner can ship his bullion to the nearest mint at practically the same cost as the Government. Moreover, the metal is produced principally in extensive plants and disposed of in large quantities and the conditions which surround the marketing of gold and silver no longer subject the miner to the risks of discount and loss such as originally justified the establishment of Government assay offices. As the advantages of such offices to-day do not compensate for the increased expense to the Government of their maintenance, I believe

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that we should firmly oppose any multiplication of them.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

Feb. 17, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It would appear to be inappropriate, unless the matter is referred to this Department, for us to write formally to either the Speaker of the House or to the President in regard to the bill which passed the Senate for the establishment of an assay office at Los Angeles. But I believe that it would be advisable to communicate with them informally and to let them know that it is still the opinion of this Department that the establishment of such assay offices is not to be encouraged. This is the more important in view of the fact that two years ago a similar bill for the establishment of an assay office in Salt Lake City passed both Houses and received the approval of the President before any opportunity was given for the Director of the Mint or the Secretary of the Treasury to enter any protest.

So far as I know, it is not customary in other countries for the Government to establish assay offices apart from their mints and the conditions which led to the establishment of such institutions in this country many years ago no longer exist. When the Government instituted the policy of establishing assay offices in the various mining districts these districts were poorly supplied with transportation and banking facilities and the production of gold was principally from placer mines worked by individual miners, who were compelled to

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dispose of their product at a heavy discount. Under such conditions the opening of a Government assay office in the locality where the miner could dispose of his product at its coinage value undoubtedly preserved the miner from unnecessary losses and offered substantial encouragement to the mining industry. At present, however, with railways and express companies convenient to all mining districts the miner can ship his bullion to the nearest mint at practically the same cost as the Government. Moreover, the metal is produced principally in extensive plants and disposed of in large quantities and the conditions which surround the marketing of gold and silver no longer subject the miner to the risks of discount and loss such as originally justified the establishment of Government assay offices. As the advantages of such offices to-day do not compensate for the increased expense to the Government of their maintenance, I believe that we should firmly oppose any multiplication of them.

Respectfully,

A Pettibone

Director of the Mint

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47

Feb. 21, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It appears that Senate Bill No. 2902, to establish an assay office at Los Angeles, Cal., has passed the Senate and is now before the House Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures. I believe that it would be advisable to communicate with Mr. McKinley, the chairman of this Committee, and to let him know that it is still the opinion of this Department that the establishment of such assay offices is not to be encouraged. This is the more important in view of the fact that two years ago a similar bill for the establishment of an assay office in Salt Lake City passed both Houses and received the approval of the President before any opportunity was given for the Director of the Mint or the Secretary of the Treasury to offer any protest.

So far as I know, it is not customary in other countries for the government to establish assay offices apart from their mints and the conditions which led to the establishment of such institutions in this country many years ago no longer exist. When the Government instituted the policy of establishing assay offices in the various mining districts these districts were poorly supplied with transportation and banking facilities and the production of gold was principally from placer mines worked by individual miners, who were compelled to dispose of their product at a heavy discount. Under such conditions

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the opening of a Government assay office in the locality where the miner could dispose of his product at its coinage value undoubtedly preserved the miner from unnecessary losses and offered substantial encouragement to the mining industry. At present, however with railways and express companies convenient to all mining districts the miner can ship his bullion to the nearest mint at practically the same cost as the Government. Moreover, the metal is produced principally in extensive plants and disposed of in large quantities and the conditions which surround the marketing of gold and silver no longer justified the establishment of Government assay offices. As the advantages of such offices to-day do not compensate for the increased expense to the Government of their maintenance, I believe that we should firmly oppose any multiplication of them.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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Feb. 21, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your request of the 5th instant respecting information bearing upon publications of this Bureau, I have the honor to report as follows:

1. I enclose a list of the reports and other documents on hand.

2. The demand for the reports of different years varies according to the content of the volume in a rather unpredictable manner. It would appear from the list above mentioned as though there were excess copies of the following:

Report of the Director of the Mint.

Fiscal year.	Number (cloth)	Fiscal year.	Number (cloth)
1882	90	1890	100
1883	130	1891	60
1884	275	1896	667
1886	158	1897	133
1888	284	1903	800
			2,697

Report on Production of Precious Metals.

Calendar year.	Number (cloth)	Calendar year.	Number (cloth)
1886	70	1895	750
1887	400	1897	500
1891	100	1900	200
1892	500	1902	650
1893	125		3,295

The Bureau is frequently in receipt of requests for complete sets of the reports from members of Congress, public and university libraries, bankers, attorneys and mining engineers. These requests

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average about 15 per annum.

5. The reports of the Bureau are distributed upon request. There are two records, the first contains a permanent mailing list for the United States of public libraries, numismatic societies, mining engineers, mining and scientific publications, prominent newspapers, bankers, representatives of foreign countries, technical colleges and universities - numbering 218; and for foreign countries of mining and scientific publications, colleges and universities, mints, banks and bankers, mining, geological and scientific bureaus, scientific writers and those who have furnished official material from foreign governments - numbering 225. These are sent through the Bureau of Exchanges.

The other record is a temporary mailing list of those who have made a direct request or for whom a request has been made by others.

The reports of 'mineral resources' were not published by this Bureau.

Respectfully,

A. Pratt Chairman

Director of the Mint.

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(List returned as requested)

#288282

Annual Reports of the Director of the Mint.

Fiscal year.	Binding. Half sheep.	Binding. Cloth.
1875	----	3
1876	----	16
1877	----	2
1878	----	21
1879	----	3
1880	----	37
1881	----	41
1882	----	183
1883	----	214
1884	1	357
1885	5	---
1886	----	263
1887	----	82
1888	----	382
1889	4	11
1890	4	205
1891	13	152
1892	35	45
1893	75	5
1894	61	---
1895	1	58
1896	6	847
1897	3	237
1898	4	81
1899	8	191
1900	41	172
1901	183	294
1902	54	6
1903	125	885
1904	42	7
1905	154	50
1906	105	53
1907	102	19
1908	120	125
1909	100	691

Reports on the Production of the Precious Metals.

Calendar year.	Binding. Half sheep.	Binding. Cloth.
1880	---	22
1881	---	37
1882	3	3
1883	1	4
1884	42	10
1885	3	72
1886	2	134
1887	46	495
1888	5	112
1889	5	124
1890	13	63
1891	16	213
1892	---	583
1893	3	292
1894	36	16
1895	82	923
1896	99	100
1897	---	620
1898	230	142
1899	82	137
1900	144	449
1901	97	13
1902	154	861
1903	60	104
1904	130	195
1905	170	443
1906	165	228
1907	125	83

Instructions and Regulations 1908.
(Doc. No. 2494)

46 copies, paper cover.

50 copies, half-sheep.

Reports of Assay Commission.

Year.	Number (paper cover)
1882	13
1883	4
1884	9
1885	7
1886	7
1888	1
1890	22
1891	25
1892	18
1893	21
1894	18
1896	53
1898	1
1899	24
1901	29
1902	14
1903	86
1904	125
1905	196
1906	135
1907	158
1908	8
1909	93

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, February 28, 1910.

he Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

ir:

I have the honor to request that Certificates of Deposit Nos. 84, 85 and 92, for $52.13; $50.76, and $2.55, respectively, erroneously deposited in the Treasury by George W. Mark, Assayer in Charge of United States Assay Office at St. Louis, Mo., and enclosed herewith, be cancelled, and that three Certificates be issued in lieu thereof as follows:- One for $63.45 on account of Gains in Charges and on Shipments; one for $4.41, account of the Value of Deposit Melting Room bar, and one for $34.64, account of Bullion Fund balance, on January 31, 1910, covering into the Treasury his balance under his old bond, on that date. and place the difference $2.94 to his official credit.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

(Enclosures).

Feb. 28, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am now in a position to present an exact statement of the reduction in personnel which has been made in the mint at Philadelphia and the mint at New Orleans since January 1, 1910. All of these changes will have been effected on or before March 1st.

First: On March 1st there will be dropped from the rolls of the mint in Philadelphia 34 adjusters who have been receiving $2. per day, which will effect an annual reduction in expense of $21,284. Up to this time every gold coin has been weighed and adjusted in blank by hand and then weighed again in coin by hand, and every silver piece has been weighed after coinage by hand as well. Last year the gold coinage of all the mints amounted to 8,411,457 pieces, all of which were weighed twice by hand, and the coinage of silver half dollars and quarter dollars amounted to 21,500,700 pieces, all of which were weighed once by hand. It is my belief that we should do away altogether with the hand weighing and hand filing and as rapidly as automatic weighing machines can be constructed and sent to the other mints we should discharge the adjusters. In pursuance of this policy we have this week discharged 34 adjusters from the mint in Philadelphia.

Second: We have also discharged from the mint in Philadelphia 14 helpers who have been working at wages of from $3. to $3.50 per

day, which will mean an annual saving of $13,459. This economy has resulted primarily from the installment of automatic coin feeding devices. Up to a month ago one man was required for each of the 22 coining presses in the Philadelphia Mint to stack the blanks by hand in the feed tubes. Through an ingenious device, invented and constructed by A. Leslie Lambert, the assistant superintendent of machinery, large hoppers have now been constructed into which the blanks can be poured in sufficient quantity to last 40 minutes, from which they feed themselves automatically into the coining presses. This will make it possible for five or six men to do the work formerly accomplished by 21 or 22. It was thought at first that these coin feeds could not operate successfully without continual attendance for the reason that if the blanks ceased to be fed into them the dies would destroy themselves by the continued operation of the press. Mr. Lambert, however, constructed an ingenious electrical arrangement by which the press will be automatically stopped the moment that anything prevents the blanks from feeding into it. When it is remembered that the total coinage of the several mints last year amounted to 173,000,000 pieces and that these pieces have hitherto always been fed into the presses by hand one can appreciate the vast improvement effected by the introduction of these automatic feeds.

Third: In addition to the reduction of the force entailed by these two machines, amounting in all to 48 people, I was able to arrange last week, with Miss Kelly's assistance, for the discharge of 31 additional laborers scattered through the several departments and offices of the mint. During a series of visits to the mint we examined the foreman of each room as to the existence of redundant

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labor, and the following discharges, with attendant savings from future pay-rolls have resulted:

6 Classified Laborers-- 3 at $3; 3 at $2.50		$ 5,164.50
2 Carpenters	$3.50 per diem	2,191.
5 Watchmen	$900. per annum	2,700.
5 Coin Counters	$3.50 per diem	3,286.50
2 Asst. Curators	$720. per annum	1,440.
1 Foreman of Refinery	$5. per diem	1,565.
2 Sewing Women	$1.75 per diem	1,095.50
2 Annealers	$3.25 per diem	2,034.50
1 Machinist	$3.50 per diem	1,095.50
1 Asst. in Sweep Cellar	$3.50 per diem	1,095.50
1 Asst. Weigher	$3.75 per diem	1,173.75
1 Clerk		1,600.
2 Clerks	$1,400. per annum	2,800.
3 Clerks	$ 900. per annum	2,700.
1 Assistant Bookkeeper		1,800.
Housekeeper from $3.25 to Sewing Woman at $1.75		469.50
Custodian of Vaults from $1,800. to $1,400		400.
TOTAL		$32,611.25

I think it is only fair to the Bureau to state, inasmuch as the press comments have attributed this reduction of the force to the work of the auditors who inspected the mint last summer that at no point in the report of these auditors was complaint made of redundant labor in the offices and workrooms just mentioned although they did comment upon the importance of introducing automatic coin feeds and automatic weighing machines. The introduction of these two labor-saving devices had, however, been discussed in Philadelphia among certain of the Mint officials long before the auditors examined the Mint. I mention this not in the least by way of criticism of Arthur Young & Co., who I know did not regard their investigation of the Mint as more than casual but rather in order that the Bureau may receive just credit for the labor which we have devoted during the last three months to the reduction of expenses in Philadelphia.

I want also to add that in the course of the past month the following reductions of the force have been accomplished in New

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Orleans:

Forewoman of Adjusters	$2.50 per diem	$ 782.50
Foreman of Annealers	$3.00 per diem	$ 939.00
Foreman of Rolling Room	$3.50 per diem	$1,095.50
Scale Adjuster	$3.50 per diem	$1,095.50
2 Melters	$2.50 per diem each	$1,565.00
2 Helpers	$3.00; $2.50	$1,721.50
1 Laborer		$ 660.00
TOTAL		$7,859.00

The total reduction of the force in Philadelphia amounts to 79 people with a resultant economy of $67,354.25; the total reduction in New Orleans amounts to 9 persons with a pay-roll of $7,859. This means a reduction since the first of January in the two institutions of 88 persons and a reduction of the pay-roll amounting to more than $75,000. It should also be stated that as soon as additional coin feeds and weighing machines have been constructed for use in Denver and San Francisco and we have been able to make a personal visit to the mint in San Francisco, that we hope to make somewhat similar reductions in the service in the other mints.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

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59

March 1, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I respectfully submit herewith a proposed form for use in reporting the balances belonging to the various accounts of the service.

I consider this form of sufficient importance to recommend its use and to request your authority to have the same printed. during the current fiscal year.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

AAH.

60

March 2, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit a request from Carl H. Krueger, Helper in the Coining Department of the United States Mint at Denver, asking for authority to appeal to Congress for reimbursement for expenses incurred by him on account of personal injuries suffered while working in the Mint on February 27, 1906. I enclose with the request such correspondence as we have in our files with regard to the case. Without in any way approving of his claim I should suppose that he might be given permission to appeal to Congress.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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61

March 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I forward herewith a copy of the report of the Director of the Bureau of Standards upon the test of the Brass Troy Pound of the Mint which was brought over from Philadelphia on February 28th by the Assayer of the Mint in Philadelphia and which was returned in his care on March 2nd. In view of the supposed appreciation of its weight prophesied by Mr. Edward Rigg, Superintendent of the Mint in London, it is gratifying to discover that the Brass Troy Pound brought over to America by Albert Gallatin 85 years ago shows to-day a variation of only seven-thousandths of a grain (.007) from the standard weights of the Bureau of Standards.

Respectfully,

C. Raudenbush

Director of the Mint

S-

62

March 5, 1910.

e Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

r Mr. Secretary:

Before taking any further steps in the matter of
e pattern pieces issued from the Philadelphia Mint I think we should
ve an authoritative opinion from the office of the Attorney General
th regard to the legal status of our several claims: first: that
e law has never authorized the distribution of experimental or
ttern pieces; secondly, that title to such pieces therefore cannot
ss to any individual and that the pieces are still the property of
e United States; and third, that such pieces now in private hands
n be taken possession of by the Government under writ of replevin.
is necessary for us to take action in this matter with the great-
t expedition inasmuch as one of the Philadelphia papers has se-
ured possession of many of the facts and is apt to publish them and
that case any action on our part would appear to have been taken
ly after the matter had been forced upon our attention by the public
ess.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

63

March 5, 1910.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In view of the dangerously exposed condition of the New York Assay Office during the construction of the new melting and refining plant, and especially as shown by the recent discovery of a sleeping tramp who, despite the watchmen, had found entrance to the office during the night, I would respectfully suggest the advisability of arranging if possible for the transfer of gold and silver bars from the storage vaults of the Assay Office to a vault in the sub-treasury and that during the period while the rebuilding operations are going on only a working balance of gold bars should be maintained in the working vaults of the Assay Office.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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64

March 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In view of the labor troubles and disorder in the streets now prevalent in Philadelphia, I am of the opinion that some additional protection should be given to the United States Mint, in the vaults of which, according to yesterday's statement, there were $408,000,000. in coin and about $22,000,000. in bullion. I would suggest applying to the War Department for the detail of a small guard to be maintained in the Mint night and day as long as unsettled conditions continue to exist.

Respectfully,

A. Pitt Bullen

Director of the Mint

S-

March 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Replying to the inquiry of the Chairman of the Committee on Finance for a report with regard to Senate Bill No. 6541, I have the honor to submit the following considerations:

The suggested amendment to section 3536 of the Revised Statutes, concerning the weight of the subsidiary coins, if adopted, would eliminate a considerable amount of unnecessary labor and would accordingly save considerable unnecessary expense in our several mints.

The present law, after providing for an acceptable deviation from the standard weight of 1½ grains in the case of the individual half dollar, quarter dollar, or dime, requires that in delivering them in quantity the heavy and light pieces within the accepted limits of tolerance shall be so mixed that the deviation in the total shall not exceed two-hundredths of an ounce in 1,000 half dollars or quarter dollars and one-hundredth of an ounce in 1,000 dimes. In other words, according to the regulations for the single pieces there may be a deviation of 1,500 grains from the standard in 1,000 halves (weighing 192,900 grains), or in 1,000 quarters (weighing 96,450 grains), or in 1,000 dimes (weighing 38,580 grains), while the regulations for deliveries in quantities allow only a deviation of 9.6 grains from the standard in 1,000 half dollars or quarter dollars and 4.8 grains in 1,000 dimes. It will be easily understood that such a requirement

involves not only a careful weighing of the individual pieces, which is obviously important, but a laborious and expensive separation and mixing of the heavy and light acceptable coins, which, in the case of our very much overvalued subsidiary currency, is quite unnecessary.

In the Philadelphia mint up to the present time, on account of the supposed obligation entailed by this provision of law, every quarter dollar or half dollar passing out of the mint has been subjected to three separate weighings--two by machinery, and one by hand. In 1907 there were issued from our mints 11,651,175 half dollars and 15,596,575 quarter dollars. If we could avoid the triple weighing of this large number of pieces, we could effect a considerable economy, and the elimination of this unnecessary provision with regard to the deliveries of subsidiary silver in quantity would, I believe, save the Government at least $30,000 per year.

The suggested repeal of section 3543 which provides for the use of the Brass Troy Pound weight procured by the Minister of the United States at London in the year 1827, in determining the weight of the coins of the United States is intended to prepare the way for the substitution of the standard weights of the Bureau of Standards. Brass weights have not been used as standards in other departments of this Government nor in European countries for several decades but have been superseded by weights of iridio-platinum for the reason that brass is liable to oxidation and to a consequent increase of weight with the lapse of time. Inasmuch as our Government has a Bureau of Standards it would appear appropriate that the determination of the standard to be employed in the mints should be delegated to this Bureau and that the Brass Troy Pound brought over to this country

83 years ago should make way for a standard of more modern construction.

In order to make sure of this substitution I would suggest an additional amendment to section 3549, to read as follows:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section thirty-five hundred and forty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended by substituting the words 'Bureau of Standards' for the word 'Mint' before the words 'of the United States' so that the first sentence of the section will read as follows:

'It shall be the duty of the Director of the Mint to procure for each mint and assay-office, to be kept safely thereat, a series of standard weights corresponding to the standard troy pound of the Bureau of Standards of the United States, consisting of a one-pound weight and the requisite subdivisions and multiples thereof, from the hundredth part of a grain to twenty-five pounds.'"

This will remove the mint standard from its exceptional position and will practically place the determination of the standard weights for our coins in the charge of the Bureau of Standards.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

March 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Replying to the inquiry of the Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures for a report with regard to H. R. 21668, I have the honor to submit the following considerations:

The suggested amendment to section 3536 of the Revised Statutes, concerning the weight of the subsidiary coins, if adopted, would eliminate a considerable amount of unnecessary labor and would accordingly save considerable unnecessary expense in our several mints.

The present law, after providing for an acceptable deviation from the standard weight of 1½ grains in the case of the individual half dollar, quarter dollar, or dime, requires that in delivering them in quantity the heavy and light pieces within the accepted limits of tolerance shall be so mixed that the deviation in the total shall not exceed two-hundredths of an ounce in 1,000 half dollars or quarter dollars and one-hundredth of an ounce in 1,000 dimes. In other words, according to the regulations for the single pieces there may be a deviation of 1,500 grains from the standard in 1,000 halves (weighing 192,900 grains), or in 1,000 quarters (weighing 96,450 grains), or in 1,000 dimes (weighing 38,580 grains), while the regulations for deliveries in quantities allow only a deviation of 9.6 grains from the standard in 1,000 half dollars or quarter dollars and 4.8 grains in 1,000 dimes. It will be easily understood that such a requirement

involves not only a careful weighing of the individual pieces, which is obviously important, but a laborious and expensive separation and mixing of the heavy and light acceptable coins, which, in the case of our very much overvalued subsidiary currency, is quite unnecessary.

In the Philadelphia mint up to the present time, on account of the supposed obligation entailed by this provision of law, every quarter dollar or half dollar passing out of the mint has been subjected to three separate weighings---two by machinery, and one by hand. In 1907 there were issued from our mints 11,651,175 half dollars and 15,596,575 quarter dollars. If we could avoid the triple weighing of this large number of pieces, we could effect a considerable economy, and the elimination of this unnecessary provision with regard to the deliveries of subsidiary silver in quantity would, I believe, save the Government at least $30,000 per year.

The suggested repeal of section 3548 which provides for the use of the Brass Troy Pound weight procured by the Minister of the United States at London in the year 1827, in determining the weight of the coins of the United States is intended to prepare the way for the substitution of the standard weights of the Bureau of Standards. Brass weights have not been used as standards in other departments of this Government nor in European countries for several decades but have been superseded by weights of iridio-platinum for the reason that brass is liable to oxidation and to a consequent increase of weight with the lapse of time. Inasmuch as our Government has a Bureau of Standards it would appear appropriate that the determination of the standard to be employed in the mints should be delegated to this Bureau and that the Brass Troy Pound brought over to this country

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83 years ago should make way for a standard of more modern construction.

In order to make sure of this substitution I would suggest an additional amendment to section 3549, to read as follows:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section thirty-five hundred and forty-nine of the Revised Statutes of the United States be, and the same is hereby, amended by substituting the words 'Bureau of Standards' for the word 'Mint' before the words 'of the United States' so that the first sentence of the section will read as follows:

'It shall be the duty of the Director of the Mint to procure for each mint and assay-office, to be kept safely thereat, a series of standard weights corresponding to the standard troy pound of the Bureau of Standards of the United States, consisting of a one-pound weight and the requisite subdivisions and multiples thereof, from the hundredth part of a grain to twenty-five pounds.'"

This will remove the mint standard from its exceptional position and will practically place the determination of the standard weights for our coins in the charge of the Bureau of Standards.

Respectfully,

A. Phillips

Director of the Mint

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March 7, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I should like to bring to your attention the possibility of effecting a considerable economy in our coinage if the laws with regard to national bank reserves could be revised so as to allow the gold coins of other countries to be counted as reserves along with the lawful money of the United States. Under the present law when foreign gold is brought into this country it is unavailable for the reserves of banks until it has been exchanged for American coin and this entails upon our mints a considerable amount of quite unnecessary work. In the course of the last 20 years there have been imported into this country $374,000,000. in foreign gold coin and of this amount $310,000,000. have been deposited at the mints for recoinage. In the meantime, $766,000,000. of United States gold coin have been exported. In other words, the $310,000,000. of foreign gold was recoined at our mints at the expense of our Government while more than double that amount of our own money during the same period was exported. The coinage of $310,000,000. in American gold coin at a conservative estimate must have cost at least eight hundred thousand dollars, or $40,000. per year. I cannot see that this brought any advantage to anyone. It probably caused a loss to the importing bankers who received the foreign gold at its face value and exchanged it here for its metallic value. The recoinage of this

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foreign gold involves a quite unnecessary expense, especially in view of the inevitable drift of gold from America on account of its being a gold producing country. A change in the law which would permit national banks to count as a part of their reserves the gold coin of foreign countries at its metallic value, computed by weight and on the basis of its fineness would, I believe, be an advantage both to the Government and to the banks. It should be added that the leading banks of England, France and Germany and most European countries now count as part of their reserves along with the domestic coins foreign gold and also gold bullion of a certain fineness.

If this suggestion of a change in our banking law meets with your approval I should be glad, after consulting with the Comptroller of the Currency, to draw up an amendment to our national banking law which would bring reserve provisions in this country into conformity with those of European countries, for submission to Congress.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

73+74 in 1909 Book 75

March 8, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I desire to submit for your consideration certain additional reductions in the estimates for appropriations for the year ending June 30, 1911, amounting altogether to $93,500. which can be made without any real diminution in the effectiveness of the Mint service.

First: I would suggest the definitive reduction of the Mint in New Orleans to the business of an assay office, with a corresponding curtailment of the force. This is abundantly warranted by the amount of business handled in New Orleans. New Orleans is far removed from the natural sources of gold and since the cessation of the coinage of the silver dollar the Mint has not had sufficient material to work upon to justify its continuance as a coinage plant. In 1907 the total number of deposits amounted to 762, a sum exceeded by the deposits in Helena, which numbered 964, by the deposits in Boise, which numbered 1,576 and the deposits in Seattle, which numbered 4,195. In 1909 the total deposits amounted to 918 while the deposits in Boise amounted to 1,697, in Carson to 1,052 and in Seattle to 2,057. The value of the gold deposits at New Orleans in 1907 was $874,000., in Helena, $2,052,000., in Boise, $884,000., in Seattle, $22,261,000. In 1909 the value of the gold deposits in New Orleans was $892,000., a sum exceeded in all of the assay offices except Charlotte and St.

[illegible] deposited in Helena was valued at $1,853,000., in

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Boise at $1,071,000., in Carson at $2,552,000., in Deadwood at $1,216,000., in Seattle at $19,137,000. Such being the situation it seems highly extravagant to continue the present range of appropriations. The appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1910 amounts to $120,100: the estimated appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1911 amounts to $107,300. I would recommend the reduction of this estimate to $23,300., a total reduction of $84,000. I would recommend that the estimates for New Orleans by revised to read as follows:

ASSAY OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES AT NEW ORLEANS:-

Salaries, Assay Office at New Orleans:-

Assayer in Charge (who shall be a practical assayer)	$2,500.
Chief Clerk	1,600.
One Clerk	1,200.

Wages of Workmen, Assay Office at New Orleans:-

Wages of Workmen, and not exceeding $2,000 for other clerks and employees	12,000.

Contingent Expenses, Assay Office at New Orleans:-

Incidental and contingent Expensed	6,000.
Total	$23,300.

Second: I would also recommend the abolition of the assay offices in St. Louis and Charlotte. The business which they conduct to-day is practically insignificant. In St. Louis the total deposits in 1909 numbered 314, or about one a day and were valued at $554,000. The number and value were somewhat larger than in the preceding years and the Assayer in St. Louis informed me that the larger total had been obtained as a result of energetic effort upon his part to secure

deposits which would otherwise have gone elsewhere. The earnings of the assay office were $676.73; the expenditures were $3,706.05. The situation in Charlotte is even more striking where the total number of deposits in the fiscal year 1909 were 229, or about two every three days, with a total value for the year of $110,000. The earnings amounted to $1,166.06; the expenses $4,494.00. I would suggest the elimination of the estimates for both of these offices, reducing the estimates by $4,750. in each case.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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March 9, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

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March 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of two hundred and forty-seven thousand two hundred and eighty-five dollars and seventy cents ($247,285.70) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 R. S., and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

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March 11, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

An examination of the pay-rolls of the Philadelphia Mint reveals a surprising and inexplicable amount of pay for overtime work. The total sum paid for such work during the year 1909 was $24,338.88. In one case I discovered that a man had been paid for 22 days overtime work in the month of December, which includes 4 Sundays and a Holiday. Even in the month of February, when the mint work was slack there was still a large number of employees being paid for extra time. This has suggested the advisability of transferring as many of the employees of the Mint from a per diem to a per annum basis and on the first of March, of the employees of the Mint who last year had received $24,000. in overtime work, a sufficient number had been transferred to the per annum basis to cover $7,322. of this expenditure. I have hoped to pursue this matter further and to put a still larger number of the employees upon the per annum basis but have encountered considerable opposition in carrying out the measure, ostensibly grounded upon the claim that certain kinds of workers have frequently to be employed on Sunday and on night duty or at extraordinary hours. The idea has occurred to me that we could possibly balance the advantages of the per diem and the per annum method by restricting the leave of absence of those employees who are employed on the per diem basis. Upon first examination of the

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question some doubt was expressed with regard to the legality of this step on the ground that the employees of the several mints and assay offices were subject to the same regulation as are the clerks in the executive departments at Washington. The Comptroller of the Treasury has this day, March 11th, decided that "the Act of March 3, 1893 as amended by the Act of March 15, 1898, is not applicable to the employees of the mint service outside of the executive department" and that we "are authorized to make such regulations as to leaves of absence for such employees as you may consider for the best interest of the public service". This puts the matter entirely at our disposal. Before taking any action I should be glad to have your advice as to the expediency of restricting the leave of absence of the per diem men (who receive overtime pay) to two weeks instead of 30 days and the restriction also of their annual sick leave to two weeks instead of 30 days. The last suggestion is made to forestall the transfer of the ordinary leave of absence to the sick leave. I believe that such a restriction of the ordinary leave and the sick leave of the per diem employees would make the per annum method of remuneration more satisfactory to the employees than it is at present and that it would tend to restrict the excessive extravagance now prevalent in the matter of overtime work.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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March 14, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Enclosed plese find the official bond of Calvin E. Vilas, Assayer in Charge, U. S. Assay Office, Seattle, Washington, which it is desired should be approved to take effect April 1st, 1910.

Respectfully,

R. O. Bratton

Acting Director of the Mint.

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March 16, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I desire to submit for your consideration certain additional reductions in the estimates for appropriations for the year ending June 30, 1911, amounting altogether to $92,000. which can be made without any real diminution in the effectiveness of the Mint service.

First: I would suggest the definitive reduction of the Mint in New Orleans to the business of an assay office, with a corresponding curtailment of the force. This is abundantly warranted by the amount of business handled in New Orleans. New Orleans is far removed from the natural sources of gold and since the cessation of the coinage of the silver dollar the Mint has not had sufficient material to work upon to justify its continuance as a coinage plant. In 1907 the total number of deposits amounted to 762, a sum exceeded by the deposits in Helena, which numbered 964, by the deposits in Boise, which numbered 1,576 and the deposits in Seattle, which numbered 4,195. In 1909 the total deposits amounted to 918 while the deposits in Boise amounted to 1,697, in Carson to 1,052 and in Seattle to 2,057. The value of the gold deposits at New Orleans in 1907 was $874,000., in Helena, $2,052,000., in Boise, $884,000., in Seattle, $22,261,000. In 1909 the value of the gold deposits in New Orleans was $892,000., a sum exceeded in all of the assay offices except Charlotte and St. Louis. The gold deposited in Helena was refined at [illegible]

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Boise at $1,071,000., in Carson at $2,552,000., in Deadwood at $1,216,000., in Seattle at $19,137,000. Such being the situation it seems highly extravagant to continue the present range of appropriations. The appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1910 amounts to $120,100; the estimated appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1911 amounts to $107,300. I would recommend the reduction of this estimate to $24,800., a total reduction of $82,500. I would recommend that the estimates for New Orleans be revised to read as follows:

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES AT NEW ORLEANS:-

Salaried, Mint at New Orleans:-

Assayer in Charge (who shall be a practical assayer)..	$2,500.
Assistant Assayer.....	1,500.
Chief Clerk.....	1,600.
One Clerk.....	1,200.

Wages of Workmen, Mint at New Orleans:-

Wages of Workmen, and not exceeding $2,000. for other clerks and employees.....	12,000.

Contingent Expenses, Mint at New Orleans:-

Incidental and contingent expenses.....	6,000.
Total.....	$24,800.

This appropriation would be amply sufficient to meet the needs of the New Orleans institution if coinage is not to be resumed there, provided that some disposition can be made of the stock of coin now stored in the Mint which will relieve the Mint of its custody (There are now stored in the Mint at New Orleans 29,000,000 silver dollars, about $2,000,000 in subsidiary silver and $1,500,000

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in gold). The proposed appropriation for the Mint at New Orleans exceeds in amount the appropriations for all the other assay offices except those at New York and Seattle. The estimated appropriations for the other assay offices for the year ending June 30, 1911 are as follows: Carson, $15,600; Boise, $14,200; Charlotte, $4,750; Helena, $23,450; St. Louis, $4,750; Salt Lake City, $15,700. It would probably be advisable in order to minimize the importance of the change to retain the name of Mint for the institution at New Orleans even though its functions are those of an assay office. This has been done in Carson, where coinage operations were suspended in 1893 and have never been resumed. The institution is still referred to as the Mint of the United States at Carson. As has already been pointed out the deposits in Carson last year exceeded both in number and in value the deposits in the Mint at New Orleans and yet the proposed appropriation for the Mint in New Orleans exceeds that of Carson by more than 50%.

Second: I would also recommend the abolition of the assay offices in St. Louis and Charlotte. The business which they conduct to-day is practically insignificant. In St. Louis the total deposits in 1909 numbered 314, or about one a day and were valued at $554,000. The number and value were somewhat larger than in the preceding years and the Assayer in St. Louis informed me that the larger total had been obtained as a result of energetic effort upon his part to secure deposits which would otherwise have gone elsewhere. The earnings of the assay office were $676.73; the expenditures were $3,706.05. The situation in Charlotte is even more striking where the total number of deposits in the fiscal year 1909 were 229, or about two every three

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days, with a total value for the year of $110,000. The earnings amounted to $1,166.06; the expenses $4,494.00. I would suggest the elimination of the estimates for both of these offices, reducing the estimates by $4,750. in each case.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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Secretary of Treasury & Chief Clerk

Secretary of Treasury
and Chief Clerk

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March 16, 1910

Hon. Charles D. Hilles,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I enclose herewith models for a new Life-Saving Medal, which were prepared by the Engraver of the Mint in Philadelphia at the request of Mr. Beekman Winthrop, the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in January, 1909. With the models I enclose the copy of a letter from the former Director of the Mint, Mr. Frank A. Leach, concerning this matter and a letter from the Engraver of the Mint in Philadelphia, in which he states his ideas as to the utilization of these designs. I have informed Mr. Barber that the models and his suggestions have been referred to you. You will note that the preparation of these designs has been undertaken without any thought of special remuneration.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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March 17, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I should like to bring to your consideration the possibility of improving the administration of affairs in the New York Assay Office by the retirement of the present Superintendent and the appointment of a successor who is better equipped for the position. The records of the New York Assay Office during the past two years indicate that the present incumbent has not pursued his functions with the measure of faithfulness and single-minded devotion to his business which we have a right to expect in such an official. An examination of the signatures on the daily reports of the New York Assay Office in our files reveals the fact that in 1908 Mr. Foster did not sign his mail on at least 55 days and on at least 78 days in the year 1909, and I am informed upon good authority that Mr. Foster frequently does not reach his office before 11 o'clock in the morning and that after signing a few letters he not infrequently leaves for the day. The difficulty in finding Mr. Foster experienced by various Treasury officials who have visited the New York Assay Office from time to time confirms this testimony as to Mr. Foster's persistent absence. This situation was brought strikingly to the attention of the Department last summer upon the occasion of the death of the Chief Clerk and resulted in the following letter to Mr. Foster from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury:

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October 13, 1909.

Mr. Kingsbery Foster,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York City.

Sir:

The attention of the Department has been called to your frequent absence from the New York Assay Office, the business of the institution as a consequence being left to subordinates. It is apparent that you do not understand that appointment to this important position calls for the undivided attention of a Superintendent, and you are informed that if this practice of absenting yourself from your duties continues I shall feel it incumbent upon me in the interests of the public service to bring the matter before the President.

Respectfully,
(Signed) Charles D. Norton,
Acting Secretary.
R.E.P.

Soon after my assumption of the position of Director of the Mint Mr. Foster insistently brought forward the need of the New York office for an assistant superintendent to relieve him of some of the arduous labors incident to his position. He expressed the hope that by this means we might provide against the possible recurrence of the embarrassing contingency of the summer of 1909. I asked him to prepare a detailed statement of the expected duties of such an officer and was convinced from his reply that if his request had been granted there would have been scarcely anything left for the Superintendent of the office to do beyond the monthly signing of a voucher for his salary.

A series of recent experiences with Mr. Foster's endeavor to evade the provisions of the Civil Service Act has led me to investigate his record in this regard under the administration of my predecessors with the resultant discovery that there is no inconsistency between his conduct to-day and his conduct during the two pre-

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vious years of his service. From the outset this Department, and the Civil Service Commission have had continually to contend with Mr. Foster's efforts to circumvent the principles and intention of the Civil Service Act. I find a considerable correspondence during the year 1908 with regard to the temporary appointment of some eight men as Watchmen in the Assay Office at New York and their retention on the rolls for a considerable period despite the protest of the Civil Service Commission. I would respectfully call your attention to the following extracts from letters from the Civil Service Commission, bearing the date of August 1908:

"Referring to a letter dated August 8, 1908, from Mr. Rudolph Forster, Acting Secretary to the President, inclosing a letter from Representative Bennet in regard to the temporary appointments in the New York Assay Office, the Commission would say, taking up the statements made by Mr. Bennet in turn, that as to the statement that about 20 men were appointed in the absence of eligibles of known ability and reliability, and that they all or nearly all passed the helper examination, the fact is that there are now 14 temporary watchmen on the force of the New York Assay Office, that force being a small one for which the appropriation during the last year was $89,250; six of whom took the helper examination; and that six of them were appointed on the representation that the work was in the nature of job employment; in other words they were appointed because Mr. Kingsbery Foster, Superintendent of the Assay Office represented that the work was in the nature of temporary employment and thereupon permission was granted to employ these six men temporarily. Afterwards he told the Commission that these places would be permanent and would have to be filled by examination, and thereupon these six men had their appointments continued pending the examination. Seven of these men were appointed pending the establishment of a register.

* *

Mr. Bennet states that when the Superintendent of the Assay Office had shown the first 25 eligibles what their duties would be all but three or four declined and these three or four are entirely unfitted physically for the work. The only information the Commission has upon this point is the report of the Superintendent of the Assay Office under date of July 28, 1908, stating that among the first 12 eligibles he has received five acceptances, and transmitting declinations by the other 7 eligibles upon being shown the character of the work to be performed. In this connection, however, it ought to be stated that there are still many eligibles left who are ahead in standing on the register of such of the temporary appointees as took

the examination; also that the examination was a third grade examination not calling for literary ability or scholastic training, but for the very simplest elementary knowledge of the English language and such minor branches as ought to be possessed by anyone who has been through six grades of the common school, and further that the declinations in question were made to the Superintendent after he had cross-examined the eligibles with such severity that this Commission felt it incumbent upon itself to call upon the Secretary of the Treasury to insist that a similar course of examination should not be pursued in the future. In this letter to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated August 5, 1908, the Commission stated that the character of the questions asked of the eligibles tended to confuse and discourage them from accepting appointment, to cause a disclosure of their religious affiliations and to incriminate them, and that so far as the Commission could see many of the questions were absolutely irrelevant. The Commission requested the Department to instruct the Superintendent to moderate his zeal in these examinations and confine himself to strictly relevant questions.**********

The Commission realizes the difficulty which in some cases arises in discharging men who have gotten experienced by temporary appointment and in filling their places by new and untried persons, but it can scarcely see, in the first place, how such difficulty can exist in this case in view of the fact that on July 28, 1908, the Superintendent of the Assay Office informed this Commission that he believed that the 5 persons who had accepted would be sufficient for selections as helper. Why in these circumstances it should be necessary to get an Executive order to put in these 14 temporaries the Commission is unable to see. In the second place if there is any trouble in the Assay Office it is entirely the fault of the Superintendent of the Office because if he had told the Commission, as has already been said, what he wanted when he started filling these places as job employments, the Commission would have held the right kind of an examination and he would have had his eligibles and had them in office many months ago. As things are now the Commission is somewhat at a loss even yet as to the final composition of the force in the New York Assay Office. This is because many of the temporary appointees have been changed from time to time from one position to another, and in particular in the case of Mr. Hazelton, who has been at various times classed as a skilled mechanic, helper, watchman, chief clerk and assistant melter and refiner.

The Commission is therefore unable to see the necessity for the making of an Executive Order in this matter.* * * * * * * * * * * *

On the other hand it will be necessary to secure the cooperation of the Superintendent of the Assay Office and that he deal fairly in advising the Commission correctly and fully of the needs of his office and thus avoid the appointment of temporaries, the separation of whom always interferes with the work of an office.

If he has not yet gotten the right kind of eligibles the remedy is to hold another examination and not give permanent places to temporaries or otherwise make selections without competition, a measure which will be a direct violation of the principles which govern the existing civil service system.

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Commissioners Black and Mellhenny are out of the city.
I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,
(Signed) Henry T. Greene,
Commissioner."

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August 5, 1908.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Referring to the temporary appointment of Willard Hazelton as watchman in the U. S. Assay Office at New York, N. Y., effective July 3, 1908, pending the establishment of an eligible register and who the records indicate has been serving in other temporary positions in that office since October 3, 1907, the Commission has the honor to inform you that a register was established for the position of watchman under date of July 21, and in view of all the facts surrounding the temporary appointment of Mr. Hazelton, the Commission must insist that he be separated from the service and the vacancy filled by selection from the eligible register not later than thirty days from the date of its establishment.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,
John C. Black,
President.

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August 19, 1908.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Commission, under date of August 5 addressed a letter to the Department reiterating its request for the separation of Mr. Willard Hazelton from the temporary position of watchman in the New York Assay Office and for the filling of the vacancy by selection from the eligible register established on July 21, for the position of watchman, not later than thirty days from the date of the establishment of that register.

The Commission is in receipt of the following letter from Mr. Foster, Superintendent of the New York Assay Office, under date of August 15:

"I am in receipt of your communication to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated August 5 and without any discussion I will dismiss all temporary employees on September first in spite of the fact that it will cripple us considerably.
If this be acceptable to the Commission kindly inform me."

The Commission would be disinclined to ask for any action that would cripple the New York Assay Office, but as the only temporaries now serving in the New York Assay Office, according to the records of the Commission, are fourteen watchmen who were appointed pending the establishment of an eligible register, and as the Superintendent has had before him a large register for this position since July 21,

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it is not apparent how it will cripple his office to dismiss all temporaries.

While the thirty days allowed the Superintendent for separating Hazelton as well as the others will expire August 21, yet as all temporaries are to be dismissed on September 1 the Commission is not disposed to make a formal objection to the extra ten days which Mr. Hazelton will be permitted to serve in accordance with the proposition of Superintendent Foster.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,
John C. Black,
President.

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August 31, 1908.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Commission will be pleased to be informed as to the status of the temporary appointments in the Mint and Assay Office at New York. A large number of these appointments were to terminate on September 1st. The Commission is informed over the telephone, by Mr. Foster, that some matter is under discussion with the President which would naturally lead to a postponement of the termination of these temporary appointments. The Commission would be glad to know what reason, if any, there is for the further continuance of the temporary appointments, and in the meantime has given its consent to their extension for a period of ten days, to September 10, 1908.

Very respectfully,
Henry F. Greene,
Commissioner.

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Again in 1909 it appears that Mr. Foster requested authority to appoint helpers in his office without regard to their standing on the Civil Service list, taking the ground that he was responsible for their personal honesty and that he ought to be permitted to pick out the men who had the best endorsements of character and standing in the community. I respectfully call your attention to the following letter with regard to this matter from my predecessor, Frank A. Leach, bearing date January 11, 1909, and approved by the President.

end

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January 11, 1909.

Memorandum for the Assistant Secretary:

I beg to report that upon examination of the attached correspondence I know of no reason or condition of circumstances that will warrant setting aside or suspending any Civil Service rules or regulations for the accommodation of the Superintendent of the United States Assay Office at New York. On the contrary, I am decidedly opposed to it, for I think the best interests of the service will be obtained when the appointing power of each branch of the mint service is made to thoroughly understand that the Civil Service rules and regulations are uniformly enforced without any special favors.

Respectfully,
Frank A. Leach,
Director of the Mint

This was to-day shown to the
President and approved by him.
G. B. C.
Jan. 29, 1909.

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Begin

During the four months in which I have served as Director of the Mint Mr. Foster has continually attempted to promote men in the New York Office in violation of every intention of the Civil Service Law. I may cite as instances of this charge the cases of four men who were introduced into the New York Office as watchmen and labborers and who were almost at once detailed to service as clerks and whom after an interval of a year or less Mr. Foster endeavored to promote to clerkships without competitive examination. The case of George E. Hicks is one particularly in point inasmuch as Mr. Foster has written persistently in his regard (and argued at length upon the matter during his recent visit). Mr. Hicks took the examination for clerk on January 3, 1907 and became No. 74 on the eligible register. In 1908 he took a non-educational examination for watchman and was appointed to that position on October 10th. According to a letter from Mr. Foster dated January 10, 1910, Mr. Hicks was detailed from

the outset to clerical work and according to the letter from Mr. Foster to Mr. Hicks, dated March 6, 1910, which is appended herewith, Mr. Foster promised him on the date of his appointment that he would recommend him at the end of the year for a non-competitive examination for the position of clerk and "pending your passing that, a promotion to something better". Such persistent and continued resort to subterfuge, considered in connection with his habitual absention from his duties makes it clear in my opinion that for the best interest of the service Mr. Foster should be asked to resign and we should endeavor to secure in his stead some man who will perform the duties of his office more faithfully and more efficiently. This is the more necessary because the New York Assay Office is in process of rebuilding and the general reorganization demands peculiarly careful supervision.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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March 16, 1910.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

It is not quite correct to say that the Superintendent of the Philadelphia Mint asserts " that it is necessary under our present basis to pay out $20,000. a year in overtime wages". The fact is that he did pay out $24,000. last year in such wages and he probably will claim that last year it was a necessity and the fact is that overtime was specifically authorized by this office in June, November and December. Be that as it may, we can arrange differently for the coming year; we have already transferred a sufficient number of workers from the per diem to the per annum basis to reduce this sum by $7,000. and it will be quite possible to effect a very considerable further reduction of overtime pay by pursuing the same method. The Superintendent of the Mint in Philadelphia never offers "insurmountable barriers" to any proposition but before pushing further the transfer of employees from a per diem to a per annum basis of remuneration I should like to have your opinion and that of the Secretary as to the advisability of cutting down the leave of absence and the sick leave of those who remain on the per diem basis and who are therefore likely to receive overtime pay. I am told that the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Government Printing Office give no sick allowance whatever but allow 30 days ordinary leave. In the mints, as you know, we allow 30 days ordinary leave, and 30 days sick leave. My proposition is to allow only two weeks ordinary leave and two weeks additional in the form of sick leave to the per diem employees. Pos-

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sibly it would be well to cut down the leave of both the per diem and the per annum employees, but I should be glad to talk with you about this before taking any step. As for putting the matter through in Philadelphia there is no reason to anticipate any difficulty with the Superintendent, nor do I anticipate any real difficulty with the employees although there will doubtless be something of a howl.

Director of the Mint

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March 17, 1910.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

In regard to the matter of reimbursing F. E. Healy for services rendered in connection with the planning of the power plant at the San Francisco Mint it seems impossible to secure any estimate from Mr. Leach or Judge Sweeney as to the proper amount of compensation. I have just received a reply from Mr. Leach to my request that he name such a figure and he says "as to what that should be neither I nor Judge Sweeney are sufficiently informed to make a figure. I suppose Mr. Taylor, the Supervising Architect, could give you an idea of what would be a proper compensation". I believe therefore that we should accept the recommendation of the Supervising Architect that Mr. Healy be paid $950., which Mr. Taylor declares "to be reasonable for the amount and value of the work performed by him".

A.P.A.
Director of the Mint

S-

98

March 21, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I respectfully recommend and transmit herewith a proposed record, Form No. 977, of minor coinage operations for the use of the bookkeeper of the Mint at San Francisco.

Under the act of April 24, 1906, the superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco was authorized to commence the manufacture of minor coinage. Up to the present time the coinage of these pieces has not been extensive at this institution, and an ordinary blank book has been used by the bookkeeper. This has proven to be entirely inadequate.

I respectfully request your authority to have the proposed new form prepared by the Public Printer. It is very desirable that this form should be supplied to the Mint at San Francisco by the 1st of July next.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

AAH.

99

March 26, 1910.

Hon. J. F. Curtis,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I enclose herewith copy of a letter of March 25th from the Superintendent of the Mint in Philadelphia relative to entry free of duty of a series of medals imported from France for exhibition in the coin collection of the Philadelphia Mint and should be glad if you could give authority to admit these medals free of duty under provisions of Paragraph 716 of the Tariff Act.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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288776.

100

March 26, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request your approval of the prices charged the Philippine Government for the coinage of the following denominations of silver coin manufactured by the Mint at San Francisco for said Government:-

Peso pieces	$10.00	per	thousand	pieces.
50-centavo pieces	7.34	"	"	"
20-centavo pieces	5.30	"	"	"
10-centavo pieces	3.00	"	"	"

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

101

March 26, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Some time at your convenience I should like the opportunity of talking with you about the matter of recommending to Congress that gold certificates be issued (within certain limitations) against gold bullion as well as against gold coins. We have now some 940 millions of dollars in gold coin stored away in the various sub-treasuries and mints and yet we continue to coin each year nearly $100,000,000. in gold in addition, at a cost of from $200,000. to $300,000. I am of the opinion that by allowing gold certificates to be issued against gold bullion a large part of this cost could be saved and that the gold could be more easily handled and with less liability to abrasion. There is perhaps an additional advantage in the fact that bankers and exchange dealers could secure the bars which they prefer for purposes of export with greater promptness and less expense. With this idea in view I have prepared the attached suggested amendment which, if it meets with your approval, I will present to you in a formal letter.

Respectfully yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

Suggested amendment to Chap. 2913, Sec. 6, Act of March 4, 1907.
Statutes at large, vol. 34, page 1289.

And provided further, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall be authorized to receive with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States deposits of gold bullion bearing the stamp of the coinage mints or assay office in New York certifying their weight, fineness and value in sums of not less than one thousand dollars, and shall issue therefor gold certificates of the description herein authorized, and the bullion so received shall be retained in the Treasury and held for the payment of gold certificates on demand and be used for no other purpose; but the amount of gold bullion so held shall not at any time exceed one-third of the total amount of gold certificates at such time outstanding.

March 28, 1910.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I submit herewith a copy of the new circular of information relating to coins and medals which is sent out from the Bureau here and from the Mint in Philadelphia in reply to inquiries. I send with it a copy of the old list in order that you may see the changes which have been made. I have regrouped the medals according to the subjects which they represent. In each case the name of the designer is included and wherever the medal was produced at the direction of Congress the date of the Congressional resolution has also been attached. Inasmuch as there appears to have been no general rule with regard to the metal in which these medals should be struck, and some of the medals advertised to be struck in bronze have been struck for particular individuals in gold and silver, commanding a scarcity value on that account, I have had here inserted the price of the medal in bronze and silver and gold wherever they are sold at the mint in the three metals. Medals presented to particular individuals as a result of Congressional Resolution are ordinarily presented in gold, though sometimes in silver. In such cases the replicas are never sold in the metal of which

the presentation medal was made; thus, the army and navy medals are sold in bronze and silver but cannot be purchased in gold. It is interesting to see that some of the first medals produced at the mint were from good design and were made by French engravers. The present form of the circular gives credit or discredit for each of the medals and will prepare the way for the proper advertising of the higher class of medals which we hope the Mint will produce in the future.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

105

March 30, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($250,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

290036

For file

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1910.

My dear Mr. Webb:

In reply to your letter of March 26 I beg to say that I have formed no judgment, much less taken any action, in connection with the Charlotte Mint. I do not know how the subject got into the newspapers, for all that I have done with reference to it was to ask for a statement of the work of the different mints and assay offices of the country and the cost of maintaining them, with the view of considering the facts and the figures. So far as I am concerned, the matter has gone no further; and the statement I have asked for has not yet been prepared for me.

Very truly yours,

Hon. E. Y. Webb,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

107

March 31, 1910.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

I have no idea who could have circulated rumors that the Charlotte Assay Office was about to be closed unless it was Senator Overman, who called here at my suggestion about ten days ago and with whom I had some discussion of that matter. I have seen no reference to the subject in the papers but it is quite possible that he informed some of his constituents of the efforts which he was making for the retention of the office in Charlotte.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

108

March 31, 1910.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

It may interest you to know that Mr. Foss, of the Philadelphia Civil Service Reform Association, called to-day and expressed satisfaction and congratulations on his own behalf and on behalf of Mr. Jenks for the apparently impartial manner in which the dismissals from the service in the Philadelphia Mint have been made. He stated that he was glad to demonstrate that he and Mr. Jenks were able to express other sentiments than those of criticism.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

109

April 1,1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that authority be granted to the American Numismatic Society to sell and deliver to the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia the following medals heretofore imported by said Society for exhibition and granted free entry under paragraph 716 of the Tariff Act.

This action is desired for the reason that the exhibit of the American Numismatic Society has closed and the medals in question having scientific and artistic value as specimens of progress in medallic art are intended for permanent exhibit in the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia:

Ovide Yencesse, -
Concilation Internationale.....25 Fr.
Devreese,-
Invention du Dessin.....60 "
Henri Beyaert.....200 "
Kountzky,-
Mommsen..... 30 Kr.
Kautsch,-
Lenbach, face and revers (small)..... 60 Fr.
Amilie de Radio..... 30 "
Vernon,-
Waldeck Rousseau.....200 "
Chaplain,-
President Chalmin.....150 "
Princess Bibesco.....200 "
Roty,-
Emile Gaston Boutmy..... 75 "

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Roty:
Louis Dubar.....75 Fr.

Nocq:
Anatole France (small).....80 "

Mujer:
Prinz Medaille.....20 Kr.

Le Roy:
Conference de la Paix a La Haye, 1907.....50 Fr.

Wissaert:
Patria..... 5 "

Total.....1210 Fr. 50 Kr.

Respectfully,

A. Pitt Anderson

Director of the Mint.
K-

106

, April 1, 1910.

orable

Secretary of the Treasury,

pursuance of the provisions of section twenty-five of the
August 28, 1894, I have the honor to present herewith a
f the estimate of the values of the standard coins of
ions of the world.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

111

April 2, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Referring to your memorandum of April 1st, I have not, so far as I can remember, seen any recommendations or suggestions from York and Sawyer with regard to the Philadelphia Mint Building.

Respectfully yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

112

April 2, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month and the quarter ended March 31, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

113

April 6, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo requesting, for the use of the Joint Commission on Fidelity Bonds appointed at the last session of Congress, copies of all forms of official and contract bonds, together with copies of all rules and regulations relative thereto, and copies of all forms of card and book records used in connection with such bonds.

I would respectfully state that the form of bonds to be executed by employees in the Mint Service are all prepared in the Office of the Secretary, Division of Appointments, which division also transmits to this Bureau a card giving the date of the approval of any bond for employees in the service. The contract bonds for supplies, a copy of which is attached hereto, are filed with the contracts and transmitted to the Auditor for the Treasury Department.

There is also enclosed herewith a copy of the regulations relative to bonds of employees in the Mint Service; Art. 24, page 27, Rules and Regulations, governing mints and assay offices.

Very little of the time of any employee of this Bureau is devoted to bonds as the bonds are executed upon forms duly approved by the Department.

Respectfully,

R. B. Roberts

Acting Director of the Mint.

289979

114

April 9, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and thirty-one thousand one hundred and twenty-three dollars and eighty-two cents ($131,123.82) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of that Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

290406

115

, April 11, 1910.

e Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

r:

I have the honor to request that Certificate of Deposit #45, r $293.86, which was erroneously deposited in the Treasury by P. Jenkins, Assayer in Charge of United States Assay Office at adwood, South Dakota, enclosed herewith, be cancelled, and the ount placed to his official credit at the First National Bank of adwood.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

B

nclosure.)

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April 12, 1910.

Hon. Charles D. Norton,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Norton:

Miss Ellen Clay McMichael who was recently furloughed from the Mint at Philadelphia was one of the assistant custodians. Her furlough was not due to any criticism as to the manner in which she had performed her work but was due to the fact that the position was found to be superfluous. We still have a Curator and one Assistant Curator to show visitors about the Cabinet Room, which, as you know, is not a large room and we still have eight conductors located in the corridor adjacent whose sole duty is to show visitors about the building. In the general reduction of the service which took place on the first of March when 79 persons were retired it seemed altogether advisable to reduce the force of curators in the Cabinet Room to two and Miss McMichael was one of the two assistant curators who were furloughed on this account at that time.

Sincerely yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

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Memorandum for Mr. Norton,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
Re- Old Mint, Phila., Pa.

The total amount that has been paid on the old mint building at Philadelphia, up to date is $1,100,000; the amount still due is $900,000. Installments of $50,000, will become due on August 23rd, 1910 and February 23rd, 1911, which will reduce the principal to $800,000, which amount, under the contract, becomes due within six months from that date, or not later than August 23rd, 1911.

A. Piatt Andrew

April 15th, 1910.

April 19, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Mr. Merrill T. Foster, cashier at the New York Assay Office, called this morning with a petition to the President signed by Senator Dillingham of Vermont asking that he be placed by executive order in the classified Civil Service in the same position that he now holds. According to the regulations governing appointments to the mints and assay offices the position of cashier in the several mints and the New York Assay Office has been excepted from the Civil Service rules on the ground that it is a place of peculiar responsibility and should be filled according to the recommendation of the Superintendent by an incumbent whom he personally knows and in whom he reposes special confidence. I believe that these grounds for exempting this position from the Civil Service rules are quite valid and that each Superintendent of a large institution should be allowed some choice in the selection of the official who is to handle his moneys. Any exception to this general rule made in favor of a particular individual is apt to involve the service with invidious distinctions in case of future proposals of a similar sort. Although cordially sympathizing with Mr. Foster's desire to become a permanent member of the staff of the New York office I cannot, however, endorse the recommendation as he requests that an exception be made in his case so that his appointment as cashier will operate permanently irrespective of changes

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in the superintendents of the New York Assay Office. Mr. Foster has served as cashier in the New York office for less than a year and although he "Has filled the position to the entire satisfaction of his superior officers" I do not believe that this tenure of office is sufficient justification for the request that the President make an exception in his case. I may add that Mr. Foster is an uncle of the Superintendent of the New York Office.

Respectfully,

A. Patterson

Director of the Mint

S-

April 21,1910.

Memorandum for the Secretary.

In order that the Denver Mint shall have sufficient material to keep its present limited force in uninterrupted operation it will be necessary to divert to Denver some of the bullion which at present is sent elsewhere. At present Denver receives only a portion of the Colorado product, a considerable part of the Colorado product being sent to the Omaha refinery of the American Smelting and Refining Company from which it is diverted to the New York Assay Office. In addition to this the Denver Mint has also received under the policy of this Bureau a part of the bullion which comes into Seattle from Alaska and British Columbia and also the deposits in the Assay Office at Salt Lake City. The total deposits in Seattle amount to from twenty to twenty five millions of dollars annually which according to recent policy has been divided between the Mints in Denver and San Francisco. The deposits at Salt Lake City amount to about one million dollars a year.

The original deposits in the Denver Mint amounted in 1909 to about $17,000,000 and the total value of the gold received in Denver including original deposits and redeposits was a little less than $35,000,000.

At present the bullion received in the Assay Offices at Helena, Boise and Deadwood is all shipped to Philadelphia along with the deposits from Charlotte and Saint Louis and New York. If we were to divert to Denver the bullion from the Assay Offices at Helena, Boise and Deadwood we should divert about four or five millions of dollars. If, furthermore, we allow Deadwood to draw on New York in payment of bullion it is likely that the bullion of the Homestake Mining Companywhich is now sent to New York would remain in Deadwood. This amounts to perhaps $5,000,000 a year. The expense of shipping this bullion from Deadwood to Denver is fifty cents per thousand dollars or no more than the expense of shipping the bullion from New York to Philadelphia. At the same time we receive an extra charge amounting to one-eighth of one percent. of the total value of the deposit for the assay of bullion in Deadwood as is the rule in all minor assay offices. There would also be an obvious economy in express charges through diverting bullion from Deadwood, Helena and Boise to Denver rather than Philadelphia inasmuch as the express charge from Deadwood will be reduced from $1.75 to $0.50 per thousand dollars, the express charge from Helena from $2.25 to 0.95 per thousand dollars and the express charge from Boise from $3.00 to $1.75 per thousand dollars.

If, furthermore, we allow Denver to pay for bullion by drawing on New York it seems likely that the Omaha bullion of the American S. & R. Company would be sent to Denver rather than to New York. This amounts to ten or fifteen millions of dollars. By allowing Denver and Deadwood New York exchange and by shipping the bullion from the assay offices in Helena, Boise and Deadwood to Denver rather than to Philadelphia we should increase the gold at the Denver Mint by approximately $25,000,000 yearly and reduce the gold bullion in the East by a corresponding amount. Such a measure would allow of the continuous operation of the Denver Mint and would avoid the intermittent furloughing of a large portion of the force. It may involve in time the enlargement of the vaults in the Denver Mint for the purpose of storing the additional gold coin which will accumulate and not be required in the circulation of the region thereabouts.

The only objection which I can see to this policy is the possible exhaustion at some time in the future of our supply of bullion in the East. We have an abundance of gold coin in the mints and sub-treasuries in New York and Philadelphia. At present there are approximately four hundred millions of dollars in gold coin in the mints and sub-treasuries of these two cities. We have at present about $47,000,000 in gold bullion in New York and Philadelphia which is continually being recruited by additional supplies and continually being diminished by the coinage at the Philadelphia Mint. If we were to suspend the further coinage of gold at the Mint in Philadelphia we should undoubtedly be able to meet any requirements for gold bullion out of the supplies which we now have on hand with the additions which will continually be made in the future.

Inasmuch as the Philadelphia Mint has practically a monopoly of the coinage of bronze which in bulk is the principal business of our mint service and the complete monopoly of the coinage of nickel I cannot think that the temporary cessation of gold coinage in Philadelphia would work injustice or injury to that institution nor do I believe that it would arouse much criticism.

A. Piatt Andrew

April 21, 1910.

April 21,1910.

Memorandum for the Secretary.

With regard to the advisability of establishing a plant for the refining of gold and silver in New York the following considerations demand attention:-

On the one hand it is absolutely necessary that a refining plant should be maintained in immediate connection with the Mint in Philadelphia and such a plant equipped with the best modern processes is now in operation in Philadelphia and abundantly able to handle all of the bullion which is at present deposited both in the Assay Office at New York and in the Mint at Philadelphia. According to the present intention of this Bureau the bullion deposited in Helena, Boise and Deadwood will be redeposited in Denver rather than in Philadelphia and some of the bullion which is now shipped from Deadwood and Omaha to New York will hereafter be diverted to Denver. Under such circumstances the existing plant in Philadelphia will be more than sufficient to meet any conceivable demands which may be placed upon it in the future including both deposits in New York and Philadelphia. On this account the establishment of an additional refining plant in New York may be regarded as not only superfluous but as destructive of the value of the Philadelphia plant and equipment.

On the other hand New York is the principal center from which shipments of gold are made and to which imports of gold come. It is desirable from the point of view of the convenience of gold exporters and from the point of view of mint economy that bullion should be exported rather than United States coin, and that the New York Assay Office should offer freely and at no prohibitive charge gold bars to all who desire them. If the nearest refining plant is located in Philadelphia some expense will be involved in the shipment of bullion received in New York to the Philadelphia refinery and in the re-shipment of bars from the Philadelphia refinery to the New York Assay Office, but this expense can be easily met by raising our charge formbars. I am of the opinion that the price of bars can be raised sufficiently to cover the expense of expressage without inducing bankers and exchange dealers to prefer gold coin for ordinary shipments which is a situation against which we must be on our guard. In fact we have had under consideration for some time the proposition of an increase in the present bar charge.

I am distinctly of the opinion that the present location of the refining plant in New York now under construction is altogether inappropriate for such a building. The fumes emanating therefrom are likely to be objectionable to neighboring tenants and are apt to necessitate the maintenance of closed windows and to interfere with the proper ventilation of the building. It seems to me peculiarly illadvised to erect a refiney in such a locality and it seems to me also inadvisable in view of the existing plant in Philadelphia to establish any refinery in New York. In other words, it is my opinion that the factory part of the New York Assay office ought to be abandoned.

It is the opinion of the officers of the Bureau of the Mint that Mr. Roberts the Director of the Mint at the time of the adoption of the new plant in New York did not favor the present site nor the establishment of a refinery in New York but that Mr. Shaw, the Secretary of the Treasury and Mr. Edwards, the Assistant Secretary selected the site and adopted the plan.

The question has never been raised and no one will advise that the New York Assay Office should be abolished. It is merely a question as to whether the new refining plant shall be established in connection with it. As regards the assay office proper it has been suggested that inasmuch as the land could probably be sold for $2,000,000 or more the government might well consider the advisability of disposing of the present site and securing an office in some less expensive locality. I am inclined to believe, however, that inasmuch as the government is not contemplating a new expenditure but only the opportunity of obtaining an unexpected profit, and in view of the convenient proximity of the assay office to the sub-treasury and to the banking institutions which it serves, and in view of the general fitness of giving public buildings positions of distinction as well as the advantages of light and air accruing to people who live and work in the neighborhood on account of the lowness of the present structure, that we may as well allow the assay office to remain in its present location. I would suggest, however, that the present construction be stopped, that the proposed refinery be abandoned and that the plans be rearranged so that a low building may be erected which may be used to give more space for the operations now conducted in the assay office. At present the facilities of the Assay Office are quite inadequate for the weighing, melting, assaying, packing and boxing and other appropriate operations and the additional space of three or four stories could be well employed as an extension of the present assay plant.

A. Piatt Andrew

April 22, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Apropos of Economy----I have just noticed that in the Deadwood office, where five men are employed, the total business in the month of March was one deposit aggregating 5 ounces,--one ounce per man per month. The assay of this deposit cost $593. in salaries alone. In the month of February the deposits numbered three and aggregated a grand total of 31 ounces. If we are to continue the Deadwood office it will be economy to give them New York exchange or any other inducement which they can use as a lure for additional gold.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

April 22, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The question has been mooted for a long time whether the Assay Office in Deadwood and the Mint in Denver should not be allowed an account with the Assistant Treasurer at New York upon which they could draw in making payments for bullion. After a careful weighing of the reasons for and against and consultation with Mr. McClung, Mr. Bantz and Mr. Manson, as well as with the officers of my own Bureau, I have come to the conclusion that this request should be granted. I believe that this should be done in the first place as a matter of justice to these institutions inasmuch as there is no reason why Deadwood should not be allowed to draw on New York when Helena, Boise, Seattle, Carson, Salt Lake and San Francisco, which are all at a greater distance, are allowed this privilege and the same argument holds almost in the same degree with regard to Denver. In the second place, I believe that this step should be taken in order to give the Denver Mint a sufficient amount of work to enable their plant to be continually operated with a moderate staff of employees. The Mint in Denver was closed last year for seven months and will have to be closed this year unless additional bullion is placed at its disposal. By allowing the Denver Mint to draw on New York there will be attracted to that mint some ten or fifteen millions of dollars worth of bullion from the American Smelting and Refining Company in Omaha

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which has hitherto been sent to New York, and by allowing the Deadwood Assay Office to draw on New York the bullion of the Homestake Company which is obtained in the neighborhood of Deadwood will be deposited at the Deadwood Assay Office and it is my idea that we should then forward the Deadwood bullion, as well as the bullion from Helena and Boise, to Denver rather than to Philadelphia as hitherto. This will increase the bullion deposits of the Denver Mint by about $25,000,000. in all probability.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

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April 23, 1910.

Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

r Mr. Secretary:

In further reference to the question of revising plans for the New York Assay Office I find on consultation with e Supervising Architect, Mr. Taylor, that the iron framework has w been erected for three stories and the construction is proceed- g daily although it has been found necessary to remove certain col- ns which did not base properly temporarily while they are being re- ound. I asked Mr. Taylor how much he thought the Government would ve on the present contract if the building were stopped at the urth story instead of continuing to the ninth. Of course, nothing re than a rough estimate can be given inasmuch as any settlement or changes made in the plans at this point would necessarily involve gotiations with the contractors. Mr. Taylor seemed, however, to e of the opinion that perhaps $65,000. of the total contract of 165,000. might be saved. The iron beams for the framework of the uilding have all been ordered and have apparently been made. The rders for the construction of walls and floors could doubtless be ontermanded. If the plan which I proposed meets with your ap- roval and the new construction is rearranged so that the Assay Of- fice will be equipped as are the other assay offices, without a re- fining plant (and none of our assay offices have such a plant) then it is altogether desirable that further building operations be stopped at once.

Yours sincerely,

A. Piatt Andrew

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April 26, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

An examination of the regulations with regard to annual leave in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and in the Government Printing Office shows that the employees in both of these institutions are allowed thirty days annual leave but no additional leave on account of sickness, whereas in the mints and assay offices the regulations allow not only 30 days annual leave but thirty days additional sick leave. It is apparently customary for a large number of the mint employees to take advantage of the additional thirty days allowed for sickness. On that account and in order to bring our mint regulations into conformity with the regulations of similar mechanical plants in the government service such as the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Government Printing Office, I would respectfully recommend that you issue an order to take effect on May 1st, 1910, authorizing the continuance of thirty days annual leave for employees in the mints and assay offices, but withdrawing authorization of additional leave on account of sickness.

Such an order would be altogether within the law according to the decision of the Comptroller of the Treasury on March 11, that "the act of March 3, 1893, as amended by the act of March 15, 1898, is not applicable to the employees of the Mint Service outside of the executive departments" and that you "are authorized to make such regulations as to leave of absence for such employees as you may consider for the best interests of the service".

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

April 26, 1910.

Memorandum concerning the proposal to issue gold certificates against foreign gold coin and gold bullion.

The proposal that the Treasury be authorized to hold gold bullion and foreign gold coin as security for gold certificates offers several advantages. It would add to the facilities of our great financial centers as free markets for gold by furnishing a better opportunity for bankers and dealers in exchange to secure or dispose of gold bars and foreign gold coin than has existed heretofore. In the leading financial centers of Europe the large financial institutions such as the Bank of England, the Bank of France and the Reichsbank count as part of their reserves along with the domestic coins foreign gold coin and also gold bullion and the change contemplated by this proposal is intended to bring our arrangements in these matters into line with the policies of other countries. The main advantage of the proposal, however, is in the reduction of unnecessary coinage operations in our mints.

During the last twenty years there have been imported into this country $374,000,000. in foreign gold coin and of this amount $310,000,000. were deposited at the mints for recoinage. In the meantime, $766,000,000. of United States gold coin have been exported. The $310,000,000. of foreign gold coin was recoined at our mints at the expense of our Government while more than double that amount of our own money was exported during the same period. The coinage of $310,000,000. of foreign gold coin into American coin must have cost

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at least $800,000. or $40,000. per year.

We have now some $940,000,000. in gold coin stored away in the various subtreasuries and mints, the greater part of which is a reserve against gold certificates, that in all likelihood will never be presented for redemption in coin. In the majority of cases where gold certificates are presented in large quantities for redemption it is for the purpose of securing gold bars yet we continue to coin each year nearly $100,000,000. in gold at an annual cost of somewhere between $200,000. and $300,000. If gold certificates might be issued against this gold bullion the major part of this cost could be saved without in any way impairing the redeemability of the certificates and at the same time bankers and exchange dealers would be in a position to secure bars, which they prefer for purposes of export, with greater promptness and less expense. In view of the fact that America produces nearly $100,000,000. in gold per year and that the inevitable drift of gold must be from America on this account it is peculiarly reasonable that a considerable part of the gold which we produce should not be transformed at once into coin.

The plan contemplated in the enclosed bill offers abundant safeguards against the excessive reduction of the deposits of United States gold coin held against the certificates in requiring that the amount of gold bullion so held shall not at any time exceed one-third of the total amount of gold certificates at such time outstanding and in providing that the receipt of gold bullion and foreign gold coin shall always remain at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

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132

A BILL

To amend section six of the Currency Act of March 14, 1900, as amended by the Act approved March 4, 1907.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section six of the Act of March 14, 1900, as amended by the Act of March 4, 1907 be, and the same is hereby, further amended by the addition of the following clauses:

"And provided further, That the Secretary of the Treasury may, at his discretion, receive with the Assistant Treasurer in New York and the Assistant Treasurer in San Francisco deposits of foreign gold coin at their bullion value in amounts of not less than one thousand dollars in value and issue gold certificates therefor of the description herein authorized,

And provided further, That the Secretary of the Treasury may, at his discretion, receive with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States deposits of gold bullion bearing the stamp of the coinage mints of the United States or the Assay Office in New York certifying their weight, fineness and value, in amounts of not less than one thousand dollars in value and issue gold certificates therefor of the description herein authorized,

But the amount of gold bullion and foreign coin so held shall not at any time exceed one-third of the total amount of gold certificates at such time outstanding."

April 29, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith a detailed statement as to the amount of weight and space required for the gold and silver coin and bullion now held in the Mint at New Orleans.

	Value	Weight	Space
Standard Silver Dollars,	$29,573,649.	1,742,732 lbs.	7,393 cu.ft.
Subsidiary Silver,	$ 1,955,859.	106,437 "	269 " "
Gold Coin,	$ 1,849,176.	6,102 "	28 " "
Gold Bullion,	$ 3,367,168.	12,410 "	21 " "
Silver Bullion,	$ 124,622.	6,421 "	11 " "
Silver Bullion (Recoinage)		5,050 "	8 " "
TOTAL		1,879,155 " (939.5 tons)	7,752 " "

All of the subsidiary silver, ten million silver dollars and all of the gold coin might with advantage be left in the subtreasury at New Orleans. This would leave for shipment elsewhere nineteen and one-half million silver dollars and the gold and silver bullion, including a total weight of 590 tons and a space requirement of 4,933 cubic feet.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

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May 3, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month of April, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

R A Ruth

Acting Director of the Mint.

133½

May 9, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that Mr. James D. Howen of the Office of the Auditor for the War Department be detailed to this Bureau for a period not exceeding eighteen days from June 22nd, 1910, to assist in the weighing and counting of bullion and coin in the United States Mint at Denver, to determine if the balances on hand correspond with the amounts called for by the books, at the close of the current fiscal year.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

135

May 10, 1916.

Memorandum for Mr. Norton, Ass't Secretary of the Treasury

May I ask whether any decision has been reached with regard (first) to the question of leaves of absence, (second) with regard to the issue of gold certificates against bullion, (third) with regard to the proper disposition of gold and silver from the Mint at New Orleans and (fourth) with regard to ceasing operations at the New York Assay Office.

Director of the Mint

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May 10, 1910.

Hon. Charles D. Hilles,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Hilles:

May I ask whether you have ever been able to secure an answer to the three questions posed by the Secretary on April 27th: First: Is the Secretary legally free to stop the Assay Office? Second: What trade can we make if we are to stop? And Third: Who is to make the trade? Mr. Norton has asked me to make some report on the present status of the Assay Office question and I should be glad to talk the matter over with you at any hour on Wednesday or Thursday which you may name.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

137

May 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I would respectfully submit for your consideration a request for authority to arrange for re-equipping the rooms of the Bureau of the Mint, to be undertaken shortly after the beginning of the new fiscal year and during the period when the work of the Bureau is slack. This would involve a repainting of the walls, doors, window casings and ceilings of the several rooms, improvement in the floor, the purchase of an appropriate rug for the Director's office and also chairs, desk, sofa, shelves and files of uniform style and material.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

May 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa., the sum of ninety three thousand six hundred and eighty-nine dollars and fifty-five cents ($93,689.55) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of that Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

291326

139

May 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that Mr. George Fort of the office of the Treasurer of the United States be detailed to this Bureau for a period not exceeding three weeks from June 25th to assist in weighing and counting the bullion and coin in the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, Pa., to determine if the balances on hand correspond with the amounts called for by the books, at the close of the current fiscal year.

Respectfully,

A. Patten

Director of the Mint.

140

May 10, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of three hundred thousand ($300,000) dollars on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

291380

May 13, 1910.

Memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury:

New Orleans is far removed from the natural sources of gold and since the cessation of the coinage of the silver dollar the Mint has not had sufficient material to work upon to justify its continuance as a coinage plant. In 1907 the total number of deposits amounted to 762, a sum exceeded by the deposits in Helena, which numbered 964, by the deposits in Boise, which numbered 1,576 and the deposits in Seattle, which numbered 4,195. In 1909 the total deposits amounted to 918 while the deposits in Boise amounted to 1,697, in Carson to 1,052 and in Seattle to 2,057. The value of the gold deposited at New Orleans in 1907 was $874,000., in Helena, $2,052,000., in Boise, $884,000., in Seattle, $22,261,000. In 1909 the value of the gold deposits in New Orleans was $892,000., a sum exceeded in all of the assay offices except Charlotte and St. Louis. The gold deposited in Helena was valued at $1,851,000., in Boise at $1,071,000., in Carson at $2,552,000., in Deadwood at $1,216,000., in Seattle at $19,137,000. Such being the situation it seems highly extravagant to continue the present range of appropriations.

The appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1910 amounts to $120,100. The appropriations for the various assay offices whose business exceeded that of New Orleans were as follows:

		Deposits-1909
Carson	$13,850.	$2,552,309.07
Boise.	15,450.	1,047,774.02
Deadwood	8,400.	1,216,795.57
Helena	23,950.	1,851,066.41

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		Deposits-1909
New York	$88,750.	$59,742,558.81
Seattle.	49,250.	19,137,296.31
Salt Lake City	16,700.	509,994.62 (Feb.1,1909)

The estimated appropriation for New Orleans for the year ending June 30, 1911 amounts to $107,300. During the ten months of the present fiscal year, from July 1, 1909 to May 1, 1910, the expenditures of the Mint at New Orleans have amounted to $54,110.

A. Piatt Andrew
Director of the Mint

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143

May 13, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The question has been presented to me as to whether a Treasury official outside of the classified service is permitted to hold at the same time an official position upon a campaign committee or as an officer of a political organization. The specific question is as to whether the assayer in charge of one of our Assay Offices may at the same time serve as County Chairman of a Republican Committee and I should be glad to know whether there is any general policy in the Department with regard to this question.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

May 14, 1910.

Memorandum for Mr. Norton, Ass't Secretary of the Treasury

Mr. MacVeagh, at a conference on Friday, May 13th, authorized the issuance of an order restricting the leave of absence in the mints and assay offices to thirty (30) days, without any additional leave for sickness. He also signed the letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy inquiring as to whether a Government war-vessel could be utilized for the transfer of gold bullion and silver coin from New Orleans to New York or Philadelphia.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

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May 20, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith blank form of bond prepared for execution by Mr. Henry H. Bulkeley as Assistant Cashier in the United States Assay Office at Seattle, Washington. The promotion of Mr. Bulkeley to the position of Cashier has been approved to take effect July 1, 1910. I have therefore to respectfully request that blank form of bond be prepared for execution by Mr. Henry H. Bulkeley as Cashier of the U. S. Assay Office at Seattle, in the sum of $10,000.00 to be approved to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

R. W. Butler

Acting Director of the Mint.

146

May 20, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that Mr. Thomas P. Burns, Cashier in the Sub-treasury at San Francisco, be detailed to this Bureau for a period not exceeding three weeks from June 27th, 1910, to assist in the weighing and counting of bullion and coin in the United States Mint at San Francisco to determine if the balances on hand correspond with the amounts called for by the books at the close of the current fiscal year.

Respectfully,

B. H. Butler
Acting Director of the Mint.

May 24, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the following question be taken to the Comptroller of the Treasury for a decision as to whether labor, drayage, freight and any expenditures necessary in the treatment of Deposit Melting Room sweeps may be paid from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses of any Mint or Assay Office, or whether the net receipts only are to be deposited in the Treasury as a miscellaneous receipt.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

May 25, 1910.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NORTON, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

(Excerpts from letter of Director of the Mint to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated March 17, 1910.)

The records of the New York Assay Office during the past two years indicate that the present incumbent has not pursued his functions with the measure of faithfulness and single-minded devotion to his business which we have a right to expect in such an official. An examination of the signatures on the daily reports of the New York Assay Office in our files reveals the fact that in 1908 Mr. Foster did not sign his mail on at least 55 days and on at least 76 days in the year 1909, and I am informed upon good authority that Mr. Foster frequently does not reach his office before 11 o'clock in the morning and that after signing a few letters he not infrequently leaves for the day. The difficulty in finding Mr. Foster experienced by various Treasury officials who have visited the New York Assay Office from time to time confirms this testimony as to Mr. Foster's persistent absence. This situation was brought strikingly to the attention of the Department last summer upon the occasion of the death of the Chief Clerk and resulted in the following letter to Mr. Foster from the Acting Secretary of the Treasury:

Mr. Kingsbury Foster,
Superintendent, U. S. Assay Office,
New York City.

Sir:

The attention of the Department has been called to your frequent absence from the New York Assay Office, the business of the institution as a consequence being left to subordinates. It is apparent

that you do not understand that appointment to this important position calls for the undivided attention of a Superintendent, and you are informed that if this practice of absenting yourself from your duties continues I shall feel it incumbent upon me in the interests of the public service to bring the matter before the President.

Respectfully,
(Signed) Charles D. Norton,
Acting Secretary.
R.E.P.

Soon after my assumption of the position of Director of the Mint Mr. Foster insistently brought forward the need of the New York office for an assistant superintendent to relieve him of some of the arduous labors incident to his position. He expressed the hope that by this means we might provide against the possible recurrence of the embarrassing contingency of the summer of 1909. I asked him to prepare a detailed statement of the expected duties of such an officer and was convinced from his reply that if his request had been granted there would have been scarcely anything left for the Superintendent of the office to do beyond the monthly signing of a voucher for his salary.

A series of recent experiences with Mr. Foster's endeavor to evade the provisions of the Civil Service Act has led me to investigate his record in this regard under the administration of my predecessors with the resultant discovery that there is no inconsistency between his conduct to-day and his conduct during the two previous years of his service. From the outset this Department and the Civil Service Commission have had continually to contend with Mr. Foster's efforts to circumvent the principles and intention of the Civil Service Act. I find a considerable correspondence during the year 1908 with regard to the temporary appointment of some eight men as watchmen in the Assay Office at New York and their retention

on the rolls for a considerable period despite the protest of the Civil Service Commission. * * * * * * * * * *

Again in 1909 it appears that Mr. Foster requested authority to appoint helpers in his office without regard to their standing on the Civil Service list, taking the ground that he was responsible for their personal honesty and that he ought to be permitted to pick out the men who had the best endorsements of character and standing in the community. * * * * * * * * * * * * *

During the four months in which I have served as Director of the Mint Mr. Foster has continually attempted to promote men in the New York Office in violation of every intention of the Civil Service Law. I may cite as instances of this charge the cases of four men who were introduced into the New York Office as watchmen and laborers and who were almost at once detailed to service as clerks and whom after an interval of a year or less Mr. Foster endeavored to promote to clerkships without competitive examination. The case of George E. Hicks is one particularly in point inasmuch as Mr. Foster has written persistently in his regard. Mr. Hicks took the examination for clerk on January 3, 1907 and became No. 74 on the eligible register. In 1908 he took a non-competitive examination for watchman and was appointed to that position on October 10th. According to a letter from Mr. Foster dated January 10, 1910, Mr. Hicks was detailed from the outset to clerical work and according to the letter from Mr. Foster to Mr. Hicks, dated March 8, 1910, which is appended herewith, Mr. Foster promised him on the date of his appointment that he would recommend him at the end of the year for a non-competitive examination for the position of clerk and "pending your passing that, a promotion to something better". * * * * * * * * * *

Addendum:

Another objectionable practice of Mr. Foster, of which there have been frequent instances, is the making of unusual expenditures without obtaining authority from the Director of the Mint, on the assertion that the expenditures had been made under order of the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. In two cases where this assertion has been recently made by Mr. Foster, inquiries from both Mr. Norton and Mr. Hilles have revealed the fact that no such authority had ever been given nor would be given under any circumstances except in writing. Another indication of Mr. Foster's method of handling Government work is his suggestion in a recent letter that the equipment of the new melting and refining plant might be entrusted to a particular firm, payment to be made on the basis of cost (whatever that might be) pluc percentage.

Director of the Mint

S-

May 27, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Coinage Laws of the United States, passed in 1873, provide an allowance of wastage in the case of the Melter & Refiner of one ounce in every thousand ounces of gold refined and one and one-half ounces in every thousand in the case of silver. The Coiner is allowed one ounce in every thousand ounces of silver coined and one-half ounce in every thousand of the gold. The wastage is calculated once every year at the annual settlement. Under the present law during the fiscal year 1909 the Melter & Refiner would have been allowed a legal wastage of $200,000. and the Coiner a legal wastage of $40,000. on the gold alone in San Francisco, and in Philadelphia the Melter & Refiner would have been allowed a wastage of $60,000. and the Coiner a wastage of considerably more than $20,000. on gold alone. In New York the Melter & Refiner would have been allowed a wastage of $60,000. upon gold alone. As a matter of fact only a small percentage of this wastage is usually taken. In the course of the last ten years in the case of gold the highest percentage of the loss to legal allowance in Philadelphia amounted to 29% in 1904 or about $80,000. I note that last year in Philadelphia in the case of silver the percentage of actual loss to legal allowance was 32% although the total amount in value was only $3,000. In 1873 when the law was framed the technical processes were doubtless much less accurate than they

are to-day and I am strongly of the opinion that the allowance at the present time should be much less than that in the current law. It seems to me that the best method of ascertaining what the maximum percentage of allowance should be would be through the employment of some expert from one of our technological institutions and I should suppose that this could be most easily arranged during the summer months when such persons are relieved of their usual duties. I am told that there would be no difficulty about paying such a person from our ordinary wage roll or from the appropriation for refining and I should like your authorization for the employment of some such person for this purpose during the coming summer. Such an investigation would result not only in showing us what should be the maximum allowance of loss but in furnishing information as to how the actual losses could be reduced and might bring us considerable additional information of importance with regard to the processes employed by the Melter & Refiner, the Assayers and the Weighers.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

May 27, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that I have approved of the amendment and revision of the following forms:-

Mint Bureau. Nos. 8822, 8824, 8836, 8837, 8838, and 8839.

Mint Service. 505, 550, 602, 779, and 943.

The following form are to be abolished:-

Mint Bureau. 8807, 8809, 8812, 8823, 8825, 8826, 8827, and 8828.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

May 27,1910.

Dear Mr. Norton:

When you are arranging with Arthur Young & Company for investigation of the Treasury Department I should be glad if you would arrange to have them assist us in improving our present cost system which is good as far as it goes but by no means complete. It is apparently satisfactory for the purpose of making comparison between different institutions but is quite inadequate for furnishing even an approximate estimate of the cost of the several operations in each of our institutions inasmuch as no allowance has been made to distribute overhead expenses or for depreciation of plant and so on. If one of Mr. Young's best experts could advise with Miss Kelly on these matters I should be greatly obliged.

Very truly yours,

Director of the Mint.

Honorable Charles D. Norton,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

May 27, 1910.

Memorandum for Assistant Secretary Norton on economies in the Mint Service.

In the Mint in Philadelphia since January 1st, 1910, there have been dropped by furlough 93 employees, by death 4, and by resignation 5, making a total of 102, which will make a salary reduction of $90,504. Of this number of employees 83 were adjusters paid at the rate of $2.00 per day whose annual remuneration would amount to $20,658, and 4 were press feeders receiving $2.00 per day, making $2,504 annually. In other words the reductions due directly to the installation of new machinery amounted to 87 employees with annual wages of $23,162. The reductions due to changes in the administration of the Mint amounted to 56 persons with a reduction in annual wages of $67,000.

We are now in process of making reductions in the other mints and assay offices but the changes are not yet certain enough to make the exact figures available.

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

May 27, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In pursuance of the effort to guard against irregularities in the future in the issue of coins of unadopted or abandoned patterns I visited the Mint in Philadelphia on May 23rd with William H. Woodin, a coin collector in New York who has an expert knowledge of American coins. I found that the Engraver retained in his possession 136 dies and hubs for experimental and pattern pieces and 94 dies and hubs formerly used for United States coinage. The regulations of the Mint for the last 22 years have provided that all dated dies shall be defaced at the end of each year and that all dated or obverse dies cannot lawfully remain in existance after the year of their date. The Engraver had interpreted this law literally and had not considered it applicable to the hubs or mother dies of adopted coins or to any dies of earlier date than 1888, when the present regulations went into operation, nor to undated dies. This interpretation was, I believe, within the letter of the regulations but contrary to their intentions and I therefore gave instructions that all dies and hubs of whatever character, except those used for the production of dies for the current coins of the United States should be destroyed and in consequence I have received a signed statement of the Superintendent, Engraver, Assayer and Coiner that they had jointly witnessed the destruction of 230 such dies and hubs on the 24th and 26th days of May, 1910. Mr. Barber, the engraver, writes that

there now remain in his custody only "such hubs and dies as are required for the production of dies and hubs for the current coins of the United States".

When we issue the new set of regulations I shall endeavor to reword them with regard to dies and hubs so as to provide safeguards against all of these irregularities in the future.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

May 31, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in Treasury in the name of Edward Sweeny, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, Cal., the sum of one hundred and ninety-four thousand and thirty-nine dollars and twenty-three cents ($194,039.23) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 R. S., and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

B F Butler
Acting Director of the Mint.

June 2, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month ended May 31, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

June 3, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

It may interest you to know that the Superintendent of the Mint in San Francisco is of the opinion that it will be cheaper not to operate the new power plant which has just been completed in connection with the San Francisco Mint at a cost of something more than $75,000.---that it will be more economical to purchase power from the outside, as this furnishes one more instance of the extravagant unforesighted manner in which our expenditures have been made.

Respectfully yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

June 7, 1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In view of the changes in the force of this Bureau made necessary by the provisions of the Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911, I have the honor to recommend that John T. Bryant, Laborer at $660 per annum be made Skilled Laborer at $720 per annum to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 7, 1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In view of the changes in the force of this Bureau made necessary by the provisions of the Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911, I have the honor to recommend that the the compensation of Robert E. Preston, Examiner, be increased from $2,500 to $3,000 per annum, to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

E-

June 7, 1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to advise you that the appropriation bill for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911 makes no provision for the employment after June 30, 1910 of Eugene B. McSwyny, Clerk Class E. in this Bureau and his name will be dropped from the rolls from that date.

Owing to change in the method of filing and a consolidation of the work in this Bureau the services of Mrs. E. J. Scott, Clerk Class 1, will not be required after June 30, 1910 nor at this time will it be necessary to fill this position.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 7,1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In view of the changes in the force of this Bureau made necessary by the provisions of the Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1911, I have the honor to recommend an increase in the compensation of Miss M. E. Kelly, Adjuster of Accounts from $2,000 per annum to $2,250 per annum, to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 7, 1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend that Miss Mary M. O'Reilly, Clerk Class 2 in this Bureau with compensation of $1,400 per annum be promoted to Clerk Class 3 with compensation of $1,600 per annum, to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 7, 1910.

Personnel.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend that Oscar A. Carlson, Clerk Class 1 at $1,200 in this Bureau be promoted to Clerk Class 2 and his compensation increased to $1,400, to take effect July 1, 1910.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 7, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On this my last day as Director of the Mint I have received a letter from the Superintendent of the Assay Office in New York, born of what motive I know not, but recommending a reduction of the force in that institution by the furloughing of nine men and reductions in the salaries of two others, a reduction of about twelve percent in the force of the office. I approved of all of his recommendations except that of one man who had been in the service 66 years and who is 77 years old. I have also to-day recommended increases in the salaries of the Superintendent of Machinery and the Assistant Superintendent of Machinery in the Mint at Philadelphia, the two men who have been responsible for the improvements in machinery which we have adopted there and in the other mints, namely, the automatic weighing machines and the automatic coin feeds.

Respectfully yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint

S-

June 7, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the number of public documents received and distributed and the number of each on hand at the close of the calendar year 1909:-

1. Report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year 1908:

Received on January 26th and February 1, 1909, (Document No. 2534)	2,000
Distributed	1,781
On hand	219

2. Report on the Production of the Precious Metals, calendar year 1907:-

Received on February 1st and 10, 1909, (Document No. 2535)	2,000
Distributed	1,829
On hand	171

3. Proceedings of Assay Commission, 1909:

Received on March 5, 1909,	300
Distributed	218
On hand	82

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

June 7, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend that J. Wil r Sheetz, temporarily serving as Clerk Class Four in this Bureau be appointed to the position of Private Secretary to the Director of the Mint with compensation of $1,600 per annum to take effect July 1, 1910, under provisions in the Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year 1911.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Director of the Mint.

K-

June 14,1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I transmit herewith sample sheet (Form No. 978) of a proposed record of Coins and Medals for the use of the Mint at Philadelphia. The record now in use does not contain the necessary information in detail regarding the coins and medals in the collection at the Mint and I respectfully request your authority to have this proposed form printed.

Respectfully,

P.H. Butler

Acting Director of the Mint.

June 16, 1910.

Honorable M. D. Foster,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Upon receipt of your letter of the 6th instant the matter of overtime work required of Mr. I. N. Erisman was taken up with the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia and he has been advised that hereafter per diem men shall be employed on the Sunday work whenever necessary, and if a per diem man is assigned to work on Sunday on the electrician's force that he will be allowed an additional day's leave for that service.

Mr. Erisman's compensation was changed from $3.25 per diem to $1,000 per annum, and I regret that it does not seem advisable to reclassify the employees at this time.

Respectfully,

Franklin MacVeagh

Secretary.

June 20, 1910.

Mr. F. P. Dewey,
Assayer, Bureau of the Mint,
Treasury Department.

Sir:

It has been decided to postpone the annual settlement of the New York Assay Office for the present, and the letter of instructions addressed to you under date of April 30, detailing you to duty in connection with the settlement is hereby rescinded.

Please return transportation orders issued to you.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Assistant Secretary.

June 20, 1910.

Mr. J. W. Sheets,
Bureau of the Mint.

Sir:

The letter of instructions addressed to you under date of April 30, detailing you to duty in connection with the settlement of the New York Assay Office is hereby rescinded.

Please return transportation orders issued to you.

Respectfully,

WPa.

Assistant Secretary.

June 20, 1910.

Mr. L. W. Shade,
Bishop of Michigan.

Sir:

The letter of inquiry acknowledged to the sign date of April 20, addressed you to date in connection with the settlement of the land from Army Office is hereby rescinded.

Please return transportation unexpended to you.

Respectfully,

A. Patterson

Assistant Secretary.

June 21, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause blank form of bond to be prepared for execution by Arthur J. Manchester, Watchman, U. S. Assay Office, Salt Lake City, Utah, in the sum of $5,000.00.

Mr. Manchester was appointed May 26, 1910.

Respectfully,

R. B. Boston

Acting Director of the Mint.

June 22, 1910.

Keystone Coal & Coke Co.,
Arcade Building,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:

You are informed that the Department accepts your proposal dated June 6, 1910, the same being the most advantageous as to price, based upon heating value, for supplying bituminous coal for use in the United States Mint Building, Philadelphia, Pa., during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1911; the cost of the same to be paid from the appropriation for Contingent Expenses, Mint at Philadelphia, 1911, under the following terms and conditions:-

3,500 tons, 10% more or less, of a good quality of steaming, coking, run of mine, bituminous coal, the same to be freshly mined, thoroughly cleaned, free from fine coal, dirt and excessive dust, and adapted for economical use in the Hawley down-draft furnaces in the building named; the coal to be supplied being known commercially as "Cardiff" from the Cardiff Mine located in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, and having as a contract standard 14,300 British thermal units in the coal as delivered, and five per cent of ash in the dry coal, at the price of $3.09 per ton of 2240 pounds; with the understanding that the deliveries of coal under this contract will be regularly and systematically sampled in accordance with the enclosed instructions, and that corrections will be made for the variations in the number of British thermal units in the coal as delivered and in the percentages of ash contained in the dry coal, as provided in the accompanying specifications and proposal form, all of the provisions of which are made a part of this contract.

There are enclosed herewith a copy of the specifications and proposal form as signed by you, and also a blank form of bond, which you are requested to execute in the penal sum of $5,000.00, as a guarantee for the faithful performance of the provisions of your contract. Special attention is invited to the rules attached to the bond, which should be carefully observed in its execution. A copy of the advertisement which can be obtained from the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia should accompany the bond.

Your certified check, in the sum of $1,081.00 submitted with your proposal, will be retained until the receipt of your bond and its approval by the Solicitor of the Treasury, when it will be returned to you.

You are further informed that the deliveries of coal by you under this contract will be sampled in strict accordance with the enclosed instructions relative to sampling coal deliveries by the officials of the building named, and that the settlement of your accounts will be made upon a monthly basis and after the results of the analyses and tests of samples have been determined by the Technologic Branch of the U. S. Geological Survey.

The Department expressly reserves the right, in the event that the coal supplied by you under this contract does not prove satisfactory, after a reasonable and practical service test, to revoke the contract and to award it to the next lowest bidder.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this communication.

Respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

June 24, 1910.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

In order to avoid confusion in the matter of adjusting positions in the reclassification of the employees in the Mint Service, approved April 18, 1910, I shall appreciate it if, in the future, you will address all communications including requests for examinations and the preparation of examination questions for technical positions in the Mint Service to the Director of the Mint.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Assistant Secretary.

June 25, 1910.

Mr. Kingsbery Foster,
Superintendent of the
New York Assay Office,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Foster:

I am requested by the President to ask for your resignation as superintendent of the New York Assay Office to take effect June 30, 1910. Your successor, Mr. Daniel P. Kingsford, has been selected and his appointment is to take effect on July 1, 1910.

I sincerely regret the necessity for this action but it has been decided upon after careful consideration. In transferring the control of the office I hope that you will give whatever assistance you can to Mr. Kingsford.

Very truly yours,

Franklin MacVeagh

Secretary.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] necessary at this time [illegible] have been suspended during the construction of a new building and when this work is resumed the Superintendent of the New York Assay Office has been directed to recall furloughed employees wherever necessary before the appointment of new men. If it is found necessary to employ additional help before that time the furloughed employe s will be given first opportunity to return to work.

Respectfully,

Assistant Secretary.

K.

June 27, 1910.

Mr. William B. Harris,
167 Front Street,
New York, N. Y.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 16th instant, addressed to Honorable Beekman Winthrop, relative to the reinstatement of Joseph D. Marsh, Watchman in the Assay Office at New York, who is to be furloughed July 1st, 1910, I beg to say that Mr. Marsh with eight others in that office was selected for furlough by the Superintendent with the statement that the positions were not necessary at this time. Refinery operations have been suspended during the construction of a new building and when this work is resumed the Superintendent of the New York Assay Office has been directed to recall furloughed employees whenever necessary before the appointment of new men. If it is found necessary to employ additional help before that time the furloughed employees will be given first opportunity to return to work.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Assistant Secretary.

K.

June 27, 1910.

Honorable Michael E. Driscoll,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

Referring to your request for the reinstatement of Henry F. Morgan, Helper in the Assay Office at New York, who is to be furloughed on July 1st, 1910, I beg to say that Mr. Morgan with eight others in that office was selected for furlough by the Superintendent with statement that the positions were not necessary at this time. Refinery operations have been suspended during the construction of a new building and when this work is resumed the Superintendent of the New York Assay Office has been directed to recall furloughed employees wherever necessary before the appointment of new men. If it is found necessary to employ additional help before that time the furloughed employees will be given first opportunity to return to work.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

K. Assistant Secretary.

June 29, 1910.

Honorable A. W. Gregg,
House of Representatives.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant enclosing a copy of letter from Mr. M. J. Gahagan, Galveston, Texas, relative to back pay claimed to be due his father for services as watchman in the Mint at New Orleans. In reply you are respectfully informed that Mr. John Gahagan was paid in full for his services as watchman in the Mint at New Orleans from November 21, 1884 to July 31, 1885, when his services were dispensed with. The Department has no knowledge of any bill having been introduced into Congress for the relief of Mr. Gahagan.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Secretary.

June 29, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the account of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, amounting to $628.74, for the manufacture of six gold and twenty silver medals for the life saving service in accordance with your letter of May 13, 1910.

In payment of this account it is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury to the credit of the appropriations for the support of the Mint at Philadelphia, 1910, the following amounts:-

Wages of Workmen ----------	$75.65	
Contingent Expenses --------	3.28	$78.93

To be remitted direct to the Superintendent of the Mint -

To reimburse the bullion fund for the value of gold and silver	516.26
To reimburse the Medal fund for cost of cases, ribbons, etc., ---	33.55
	628.74

Respectfully,

R O Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

291563

, July 1, 1910.

In pursuance of the provisions of section 25 of the act August 28, 1894, I hereby proclaim the following estimate by Director of the Mint of the values of foreign coins to be values of such coins in terms of the money of account of United States, to be followed in estimating the value of all reign merchandise exported to the United States on and after ly 1, 1910, expressed in any of such metallic currencies.

Secretary.

July 1, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In pursuance of the provisions of section twenty-five of the act of August 28, 1894, I have the honor to present herewith a table of the estimate of the values of the standard coins of the nations of the world.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

July 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month and the quarter ended June 30, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

R. B. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

July 5, 1910.

Hon. Jonathan Bourne,
United States Senate.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo calling attention to your letter of April 22, relative to testing a briquet machine manufactured by the Gas-Tool Company of Chicago. In reply you are respectfully informed that this test was ordered to be made in May last. As yet no report has been received from the Engineer who was instructed to make the test, and he has been called upon to submit the same without delay.

Respectfully,

Secretary.

Deposit minor coinage profits.

July 7, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of three hundred and seventy thousand dollars ($370,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

292977

July 8, 1910.

Honorable William J. Carey,

Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant enclosing a letter received from Mr. H. E. Coblentz, Principal, South Division High School, Milkaukee, Wisconsin, in which he expresses the desire to secure a set of Presidential medals. I enclose herewith a list of medals and the prices at which they can be procured from the Mint at Philadelphia. I regret that we have no authority under the law to donate these medals.

By direction of the Secretary.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

July 8, 1910

Hon. James R. Mann,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge your letter of June 29th with enclosure from James R. Mann, Jr., making further inquiries as to the "sweeps" machine formerly used in the Mint in Philadelphia.

I inquired of the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia with relation to this matter and the following is an excerpt from his reply:

> "The machine in question was known as the Hooper Pneumatic Concentrator and was ordered from the Ticonderoga Machine Works, Ticonderoga, N. Y., on September 28, 1904. The cost was $355. This machine was used prior to the installation of the Ellspass Mill."

I return herewith letter enclosed by you and trust that this information may be of service to you.

Respectfully,

Assistant Secretary

July 9,1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have to respectfully request that the detail of James D. Rowan, Clerk in the office of the Auditor for the War Department, to the Office of the Director of the Mint in order to assist in the settlement at the Mint in Denver, be extended for a period of six days from July 9th that the settlement work may be completed before his return to duty in the Auditor's office.

Respectfully,

R E Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

K-

293037.

July 12, 1910.

Hon. James Tanner,
Register of Wills,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th instant with enclosure from Otto Burandt, Messenger in the Mint at New Orleans, who protests against being included among the furloughed employees in that institution and in reply permit me to state the following facts with regard to this case:

Coinage operations have been suspended in the Mint at New Orleans and in consequence the force reduced from 114 to 25 employees, Mr. Burandt being among the last of the 89 persons furloughed. He was given temporary work in the Mint at New Orleans October 13, 1905 at $800. a year and appointed permanently to that position February 8, 1906, being transferred to Messenger and his compensation increased to $900. August 15, 1906. At the present time there have been retained on account of the large stock of silver in the Mint at New Orleans six watchmen and this force will be reduced when that bullion is transferred. Of these six watchmen all of them were serving in the Mint for some years before the appointment of Mr. Burandt and I think you will appreciate that it would be an act of injustice to furlough one of these men to make a place for Mr. Burandt.

The statement that the conductor is retained is true but

I am given to understand that beside the work of conductor that position carries at the present time other duties that Mr. Burandt could not perform as I am advised by the Superintendent that "Mr. Burandt is lame as a result of a wound inflicted in 1874 while he was on the New Orleans Police Force and he is not adapted to any other position save that of night watchman".

In the necessary reduction in the Mint force within the past six months an effort has been made to avoid retiring any veteran who had grown old in that service but from the above facts it would hardly seem fair to give preference to Mr. Burandt who only entered the Mint service permanently a little over four years ago. Care has been taken ~~not~~ to discharge the employees but to carry them as "furloughed" in order that if any Civil Pension system is instituted within the next three years they shall not be excluded from its benefits.

Respectfully,

C. M. Hills

Acting Secretary

July 13, 1910.

Hon. Edwin Y. Webb,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 29th in behalf of an increase in the compensation of H. W. Sherrill, unclassified laborer in the Assay Office at Charlotte, N. C. and am glad to advise you that an increase in his compensation has been approved from $30. per month to $40. per month, to take effect August 1, 1910.

Your letter has been unanswered to this date in order that you might be advised of favorable action in this matter.

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

July 19, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State.

Sir:

In reply to your request of the 13th instant I have the honor to submit herewith for the information of the Imperial German Chargé d'Affaires at this capital a statement showing by denominations the amount of German gold coin melted at the mints of the United States during the calendar year 1909:-

Denomination	Pieces.
5 mark	2
10 mark	246
20 mark	2036
5 thalers	5
10 thalers	2

Respectfully,

Acting Secretary.

July 20, 1910.

on. William L. Calder,
1648 Eleventh Avenue,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

y dear Sir:

With regard to Edward Lotterle, messenger in the New York assay Office, and his eligibility for the position of Register of Deposits in that office I beg to advise you that on March 26, 1910, in letter from the Director of the Mint to Mr. Foster it was suggested hat if Mr. Lotterle successfully passed a clerical examination he ould be appointed as a clerk at $1000 per annum. The position of gister of Deposits has been vacant for some time and it is underood that the work is being done satisfactorily and that there is necessity for filling the vacancy. The regulations approved ril 18, 1910 provide that promotions from a subclerical to a clerl grade shall be made to the lowest class in the clerical grade to a class no higher than that from which the promotion is made. Foster recommended that Mr. Lotterle be promoted to a clerk at 00 per annum and the promotion was approved at $1000 per annum, take effect July 1, 1910. The Superintendent replied that he ld not at present spare Mr. Lotterle as a messenger and as a conence would retain him in that position for the present.

I intend to go over the matter of the personnel in the York Office with Mr. Kingsford and at that time I will take up tter of the promotion of Mr. Lotterle again.

Respectfully,

July 23, 1910.

on. John A. McIlhenny,
Civil Service Commissioner,
Washington, D. C.

y dear Sir:

Referring to our conversation in the matter of employees retained in the assay department of the Mint at New Orleans I find upon looking further into the matter that William M. Lynch, the present assayer in that Mint was employed in the Carson Mint in 1875 as a dissolver in the Assay Department and that he also served from 1884 to 1897 (when he was appointed assayer) as assistant assayer in the New Orleans Mint, which shows that he was employed in the Mint service and worked as a practical man in the assay office of it five years before Mr. Magruder was appointed to any position in the Mint service and it would also seem that unless the deposits increase in the New Orleans Mint that with the assistance of Mr. Toepfer, foreman of laboratory, who has been a practical workman in the assay department in New Orleans since 1879, that the services of Mr. Magruder as assistant assayer have been fairly dispensed with. Mr. Toepfer's compensation has been reduced from $4.25 per day to $1,200 per annum.

A letter has been written to the Superintendent at New Orleans requesting that he advise me whether the force retained in the assay department will be sufficient for the practical work of that branch, allowing Mr. Magruder to do the calculating work, and whether there will be sufficient work on the assay calculations to keep Mr. Magruder steadily employed at that work.

Respectfully,

Assistant Secretary

July 25,1910.

Hon. E. W. Martin,

House of Representatives.

My dear Mr. Martin:

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 22nd instant with regard to an increase in the number of employees and in the equipment of the Assay Office at Deadwood in order that the Homestake bullion may be treated at that office and in reply would say that the number of deposits received at the Deadwood office under ordinary conditions are so few that the present force could not possibly be kept employed for more than a few hours each day. The deposits for the three months ending March 31, 1910 numbered only twenty and for the three months ending June 30, 1910, only twenty-two, not one deposit a day. In a letter from the Assayer in Charge at Deadwood he says that "the Homestake bullion consists of about twenty-five bars per month, each weighing about 1600 ounces." You will observe from this that even with the additional receipts from the Homestake Company the deposits will number considerably less than two per day and it would seem that the present force could take care of it without difficulty.

Eastern exchange was given to all minor offices in order that if possible, without additional expense to the government, the offices might have uniformity in the method of payment, but

he government derives no benefit whatever from the Homestake deposits t Deadwood as that bullion can be handled at any of the Mints or other assay offices without increased expense as at present and the advantage o the Company is not apparent as the assay office charge of one-eighth of ne percent offsets the rate on gold bullion from Deadwood to Denver. he cost to the government for receiving the bullion at Deadwood is estimated by the Assayer in Charge of that office at $4,000 additional for wages nd $1500 additional for Contingent Expenses per annum but taking the above acts into consideration I do not feel that we would be justified in increasing the expenditures of the Deadwood Assay Office.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew

Assistant Secretary.

August 4, 1910.

Hon. John C. Black, President,
U. S. Civil Service Commission,
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Black:

Referring to our telephone conversation of this afternoon with regard to the appointment of a temporary clerk in the Assay Office at New York, for 30 days to act as private secretary to the Superintendent, I beg to say that this request is made for the following reasons.

The position of private secretary in that office is an excepted one and the employee now holding it is on leave of absence until September 1st. This leaves the present Superintendent, Mr. Kingsford, with no stenographer and as he desires to appoint a private secretary of his own choice it would be more desirable to have that man appointed now as a temporary clerk for thirty days and ~~who could be~~ to be detailed to act as private secretary. The case is a peculiar one but Mr. Kingsford is a man in whom I impose much confidence and I should appreciate it if the Commission could consent to this temporary appointment of thirty days.

Respectfully yours,

A. Piatt Andrew

Assistant Secretary

UNITED STATES

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 5, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

The Commission has the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 4, requesting consent for the temporary appointment of a clerk for thirty days to be detailed to act as private secretary to the Assayer in Charge of the New York Assay Office, whose private secretary has been granted leave of absence until September 1. In response you are advised that in view of the fact that the position of private secretary is an excepted position which could be filled, if vacant, without examination, authority is granted under Section 1 of Rule VIII, for temporary appointment without examination of a clerk for not exceeding thirty days to be detailed as private secretary to the Assayer in Charge. The name of the temporary appointee and the date of his appointment should be reported to the Commission immediately for its records.

By direction of the Commission:

Very respectfully,

(SGD.) JOHN C. BLACK,

President.

August 18, 1910.

Honorable C. D. Hilles,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant requesting to be advised concerning the chemical laboratory of the Bureau of the Mint. In reply you are respectfully informed that there are two rooms in the west corridor of the fourth floor of the Treasury building occupied by this laboratory.

The smaller room is approximately 16' x 31' and is used for the different balances and appliances for weighing coins and assaying the same. The larger room is 25' x 34' and contains the furnaces, electric motor, blower, benches and a large quantity of glass ware and chemicals necessary for the use of the laboratory. The equipment is probably worth from $6,000 to $7,000 and includes a large amount of platinum ware. Much of the equipment is special and particularly adapted to mint work and not found in any other laboratory connected with the government departments. This is notably so of the platinum apparatus.

There are three persons employed in this laboratory, namely: an assayer at $2,200 per annum; an assistant at $1,200 per annum, and a classified laborer at $720 per annum, making a total expenditure for salaries of $4,120 yearly.

The work of the laboratory consists chiefly in the examination of coins received from the various mints, and the assaying of the same to determine whether or not they are within the legal limit of tolerance as to weight and fineness. The assayer of the Laboratory is required to act as umpire in adjusting differences between the minor assay offices and the mints whenever there is any material difference reported in the fineness of shipments of bullion made by the minor assay offices to the mints. The laboratory is frequently called upon to make assays of counterfeit coins received from the Secret Service to determine the composition of the same.

The practice of the Mints is not to pay out coins from any delivery until after the same have been passed upon in the laboratory of the Bureau. Frequently it has been found necessary to telegraph results of the assay of coins received from the mints to facilitate the shipment of the same on orders from the Treasurer's Office. The laboratory is absolutely necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the Mint Bureau and should be under the immediate control of the Director of the Mint. Its work is entirely different from that of any other laboratory connected with government departments. It is essential that the Director of the Mint should be able at all times to call upon the assayer of the laboratory for consultation upon

problems connected with the receipt, melting and assaying of deposits of bullion at the different mints and assay offices. The work of the Mint service would be seriously crippled by the abandonment of the laboratory as an integral part of the Bureau or its transfer to a general consolidated laboratory outside of the Treasury building. I therefore most strongly recommend that no change be made in the status of the laboratory of the Bureau of the Mint.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

August 29, 1910.

E. date

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Owing to the suspension of coinage operations in the Mint at New Orleans the following named employees in that institution have been dropped from the rolls from July 15, 1910.

E. N. Cornay	Chief Clerk.
T. J. Johnson	Bookkeeper
S. B. Chase	Assistant Melter & Refiner.
William Smith	Cupeller
H. W. Jargens	Machinist
Otto Burandt	Messenger
Mrs. L. M. Taylor	Laborer
Alice Ryan	Charwoman

The compensation and designation of the following named persons have been changed as follows:-

Leonard Magruder, Assistant Assayer at $1,900 to Clerk with compensation at $1,200.

Paul E. Joe Assistant Coiner at $1,900 per annum to Scale Repairer at $1,200 per annum.

N. C. Cambon, Assistant Cashier, at $1,200 to Clerk at $1,200.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

August 19, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that the services of Merrill T. Foster as cashier of the Assay Office of the United States will terminate on the 31st instant.

Respectfully,

R. B. Robertson

Acting Director of the Mint.

August 24, 1910.

Hon. George Sutherland,

Salt Lake City, Utah.

My dear Senator:

I have your letter of the 10th instant relative to the appointment of Mr. Arthur E. Custer, at present a melter in the U. S. Assay Office at Salt Lake City, to the position of Assistant Assayer made vacant by the resignation of Mr. James H. Hance, and shall be glad to meet your desires in the matter. Before Mr. Custer can be appointed as assistant assayer, however, it will be necessary for him to take a non-competitive Civil Service examination, which the Commission has been requested to give him as early as practicable.

Very truly yours,

Assistant Secretary

August 30, 1910.

The Honorable
The Postmaster General.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant stating that your Department is investigating a case of alleged fraudulent use of the mails by the Interocean Finance Corporation of New York, and that the inspector to whom the case has been assigned has secured some ore from the mines of the corporation located in Reno which it is necessary to have assayed, and requesting to be advised if the ores can be assayed in the laboratory of the Office of the Director of the Mint without expense to the Post Office Department. In reply you are respectfully informed that the assay of the ores can be made in the laboratory of the Bureau of the Mint or in the Mint at Carson, Nevada, which is only 35 miles from Reno. The Assayer in Charge of the Mint at Carson has been instructed to assay the samples and to make no charge for the same. The Assayer should have from five to eight pounds of ore in each sample.

Respectfully,

Secretary.

September 1, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month of August, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

Dublin, N. H., September 5, 1910.

Edward Brush, Esquire,
Vice-President, American Smelting and Refining Company,
165 Broadway, New York City.

Dear sir:-

I have your letter of August 29th, relating to the compensation to be rendered by the government for the services of Mr. Mindeleff in examining into the methods covering the treatment of bullion deposited in the mints in Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver, and the Assay Office at New York. You state that Mr. Mindeleff's salary covered by contract with the company is $300 per month and that your custom in detailing any of your technical men for the aid of associated companies is to charge for the short period of time that their services are used, their salary plus 50 per cent and expenses. A similar arrangement will be satisfactory to us and we will pay to the American Smelting and Refining Company $450 per month for the period not to exceed 3 months, of Mr. Mindeleff's investigations, it being understood that the time spent in other employment shall form no part of this three months. At the same time we will allow Mr. Mindeleff transportation from New York to Philadelphia and return, and from New York to San Francisco and Denver and return, with a per diem allowance of $7.50 for subsistence expenses during the period in which he is absent from New York.

It is understood that Mr. Mindeleff's investigations will cover the following subjects:

1st. The methods of weighing deposits and the deductions allowed the Melter and Refiner, it being understood that these deductions are made only on deposits carrying base metals;

2nd. Methods of melting deposits in the Deposit Melting Room under the supervision of the Superintendent with measures adopted to protect against loss;

3rd. The degree of fineness at which the gold contents of deposits may be safely reported by the Assayer;

4th. Method of melting in the Ingot Melting Room of the Mints, and the precautions taken to prevent loss either by volitilization or otherwise;

5th. The precautions taken in the refining operations to prevent loss either by actual wastage or otherwise, and in case of a gain the source to which the same may be attributed;

The law provides that there may be allowed the Melter and Refiner of the Mint, in case of a bona fide waste in gold, one ounce, and in case of silver one and one-half ounces on each thousand ounces delivered to him during the year. The coiner is allowed one-half an ounce of gold and one ounce of silver on each thousand ounces delivered to him during the year.

6th. The amount of wastage that should be allowed the Melter and Refiner and the Coiner in their operations.

If further matters of inquiry develop in the course of his investigation I shall be glad to receive such suggestions covering the same as he may see fit to offer.

I will thank you to inform me when it will be convenient for you to allow him to begin this work, in order that instructions may be given the Superintendents of the Mints and the Assay Office at New York to afford him the necessary facilities for its performance. I would request that from time to time he make such reports as he may deem necessary for the information of the Department, pending his final report.

I appreciate the accommodation which you are extending to the United States government in the matter, and hope that it may result in the betterment of the government service.

Respectfully,

Franklin MacVeagh

Secretary.

September 8, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of $200,000 on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

R. W. Roberts

Acting Director of the Mint.

September 12, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the estimates of appropriations which will be required for the Mint and Assay Service, including the Bureau of the Mint, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1912, amounting to $1,177,950 as against $1,363,760 appropriated for the fiscal year 1911.

In previous years clerical help has been paid not alone from specific salary appropriations, but whenever required, clerks have been paid from the appropriation for "Wages of Workmen" under the clause 'not exceeding ------- for other clerks and employees'. In order to have it specifically set forth that comparison may be made and a uniform salary list established, all clerks paid from the appropriation for Wages of Workmen have been brought to the specific salary appropriation, and the estimates for salaries in each institution increased by that amount and the estimate for Wages of Workmen reduced in the same amount. In no instance has there been an increase in the number of employees, and the increased salary estimates are more apparent than actual.

The following tables show the amount of the appropriations for each institution for 1911 and the amount requested for 1912, with notations explaining the changes. There are few promotions, and those are definitely stated, and your attention is respectfully called to the saving of $185,630.00 accruing from the re-arrangement submitted:-

186,130

MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912	Increase	Decreases.
Salaries	$43,550.00	$80,300 ✓	$36,750	
Wages of Workmen	340,000.00	295,000 ✓		$45,000
Contingent Expenses	80,000.00	70,000 ✓		10,000

The original appropriations for specific salaried positions have been reduced as follows:-

Chief Clerk from $2,750 to $2,500 to bring the same into uniformity with compensation for similar positions in other mints.

Assistant Coiner: compensation increased from $2,000 to $2,500 on account of peculiar capacity for that position and because of extensive original work resulting in important saving to the government.

Register of Deposits: reduced from $1,700 and designation changed to clerk; included in clerks at $1,400. This position is purely a clerical one and there exists no reason for special designation.

In addition to the clerks carried in the regular salary appropriation there have been taken from the Wages of Workmen roll the following:-

Assayer's Assistant	$2,000
Assistant Cashier	1,800
Curator	1,800
6 clerks at $1,600	9,600
1 clerk	1,500
6 clerks at $1,400	8,400
2 clerks at $1,300	2,600

Brought forward ----------	$27,700
2 clerks at $1,200	2,400
7 clerks at $1,000	7,000
1 clerk	900
	38,000

MINT AT SAN FRANCISCO.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase	Decreases.
Salaries	$41,100.00	$54,300 ✓	$13,200	
Wages of Workmen...	165,000.00	155,000 ✓		$10,000
Contingent Expenses	45,000.00	40,000 ✓		5,000

All clerks employed at present and carried on Wages of Workmen, have been brought to the specific salary list and that appropriation increased accordingly $13,200 and a reduction has been made in the Wages appropriation of $10,000. The small decrease in the Wages of Workmen estimate is due to the fact that since 1903 that appropriation has been augmented by charges received from the Philippine Government which will be appreciably diminished in 1912.

The appropriation for Contingent expenses has been reduced only $5,000 because of the possible necessity for the installation of annealing furnaces, etc., in that Mint to bring coinage operations into uniformity with other institutions.

MINT AT DENVER.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase.	Decreases.
Salaries	$39,500	$48,100 ✓	$8,600	
Wages of Workmen.....	140,000	94,000 ✓		$46,000
Contingent Expenses ..	40,000	30,000 ✓		10,000

An increase of $8,600 in Salaries and a decrease of $46,000 in Wages of Workmen is estimated for. All clerks paid from Wages have been brought to salary basis and an additional reduction on account of automatic machinery and the reduction of the force. No estimate has been made for an increase in the number of clerks.

MINT AT NEW ORLEANS.

	Appropriations 1911	Estimates 1912	Increase	Decreases
Salaries	$27,300.	$7,900	------	$19,400
Wages of Workmen	55,000	6,540	------	48,460
Contingent Expenses	25,000	3,500	------	21,500

The force of the Mint at New Orleans has been arranged on the basis of an Assay Office and the amount of business transacted at that institution has been considered in submitting the estimates.

ASSAY OFFICE AT NEW YORK

46,500

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912	Increase.	Decrease.
Salaries	$41,250	~~$46,000~~	~~$4,750~~	
Wages of Workmen	35,000	30,000	5,250	$5,000
Contingent Expenses.	10,000	10,000		

The position of Assayer's Assistant has been reduced from $2150 to $2000, the amount estimated for this position in the Mints. The position of Third Assistant Assayer has been dropped, but provision for an additional weigher has been made in the Wages appropriation. All clerks paid from Wages of Workmen appropriation have been brought to Salary roll and provision made for employees at present carried as workmen but performing clerical work. No new positions have been provided for.

ASSAY OFFICE AT SEATTLE.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase.	Decreases.
Salaries	$9,250	$13,050	$3,800	
Wages of Workmen	32,000	22,000		$10,000
Contingent Expenses	8,000	6,500		1,500

With the exception of five months, the work of this office only aggregates deposits sufficient to keep a force employed part of the time. While the total deposits exceed those of some of the other institutions

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Contingent Expenses	8,000	6,500		1,500

With the exception of five months, the work of this office only aggregates deposits sufficient to keep a force employed part of the time. While the total deposits exceed those of some of the other institutions

the force is disproportionately heavy and during the busy months additional help is allowed in the way of melters, etc.

It has been recommended that the chief clerk in each of the minor assay offices shall perform the duties of cashier and accordingly that position has been eliminated in making the estimates.

ASSAY OFFICE AT HELENA.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase	Decreases.
Salaries	$5,450	$8,550 ✓	$3,100	
Wages of Workmen....	13,250	6,500 ✓		$6,750
Contingent Expenses.	3,500	3,250 ✓		250

Such positions as Assayer's Assistant, Assistant Assayer and clerk have been taken from the Wages roll and brought to the Salary Roll. The position of Cashier has been dropped and provision made for the Chief Clerk to perform the duties of Cashier, $3,100 has been added to the salary estimate and $6,750 taken from the Wages estimate.

It would not appear a hardship for the Helena Office to perform the work required with the force as estimated for 1912 inasmuch as the deposits at that office have not averaged more than four per day in any month of 1910, and the average for ten months is less than three per day. In the 1912 estimates as readjusted the force of that office will carry beside the Wage force an Assayer in Charge, a Chief Clerk, and two additional clerks, apparently sufficient for three deposits per day.

ASSAY OFFICE AT DEADWOOD.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increases.	Decreases.
Salaries	$3,200	$6,200 ✓	$3,000	
Wages of Workmen	4,000	2,300 ✓		$1,700
Contingent Expenses....	800	1,500 ✓	700	

The business at Deadwood has increased by the receipt of Homestake Mine deposits and an additional position has been estimated for; that of Assayer's Assistant at $1,400. The force has been readjusted to bring all clerical help to the Salary roll. The increase of $700 in Contingent Expenses is submitted for new office equipment to enable this office to handle the increased business going now to that office.

MINT AT CARSON.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase	Decrease
Salaries	$6,000	$6,350	$350	
Wages of Workmen ...	6,600	6,200		$400
Contingent Expenses	3,000	3,000		

An increase of $250 is submitted in the salary of the Assayer in Charge and an increase of $100 in the compensation of Assistant Assayer. The salary of the Assayer in Charge is placed at $2,250 to bring it into uniformity with the other offices of the same importance. There is a decrease in the estimate for Wages of Workmen of $400.

ASSAY OFFICE AT SALT LAKE.

	Appropriations. 1911.	Estimates. 1912.	Increase	Decreases
Salaries	$7,100	$6,850	----	$250
Wages of Workmen ...	5,600	4,500	----	1100
Contingent Expenses	4,000	3,500	----	500

A decrease has been submitted in the compensation of the Assayer in Charge in order to place his compensation on the same basis as that of Assayers in Charge of offices of equal importance.

ASSAY OFFICE AT BOISE

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Salaries	$3,400	$8,050	$4,650	
Wages of Workmen ...	8,300	3,540		$4,760
Contingent Expenses.	2,500	2,500		

An increase of $250 is submitted in the salary of the Assayer in Charge to make the compensation uniform with that paid in other offices of the same importance. An increase is also submitted in the compensation of the Chief Clerk from $1,400 to $1,500 under the recommendation of the Assayer in Charge. By readjustment of positions in this office there is an apparent increase in salaries of $4,650 and a decrease in Wages of $4,760

ASSAY OFFICE AT CHARLOTTE.

	Appropriations 1911.	Estimates 1912	Increase	Decreases
Salaries	$2750	$2750	-----	
Wages of Workmen....	1080	840	-----	$240
Contingent Expenses	920	750	-----	170

ASSAY OFFICE AT ST. LOUIS

	Appropriations. 1911	Estimates 1912	Increase	Decreases
Salaries	$3,000	$2,000		$1,000
Wages of Workmen.....	1,000	1,000		
Contingent Expenses .	750	500		250

There is a reduction of $1000 in salaries. The position carrying that amount has not been filled recently and is not deem necessary for that office.

BUREAU OF THE MINT.

	Appropriations 1911	Estimates 1912	Increase	Decreases
Salaries	$30,330.	$29,530		$800
Freight on Bullion & Coin	65,000.	50,000		15,000
Laboratory	600.	600		
Examinations.....	3,500.	3,500		
Books, etc.,.....	200.	200		
Mining Statistics.....	1,000.	1,000		

An increase in the salary of the Director of the Mint is submitted of ~~$1,000~~ and the position of private secretary at $1,800 is dropped.

Respectfully.

Acting Director of the Mint.

K.

Sept. 19, 1910.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Assistant Secretary Andrew has to-day handed me the resignation of W. J. Murphy, coiner of the United States Mint at New Orleans, and I am conveying it herewith to you. I am also enclosing a letter from Mr. Hugh H. Sutton, Superintendent of the Mint, in which he renews his suggestion that the resignation of the Melter & Refiner should be requested, to take effect at the same time as the resignation of the Coiner. He is unquestionably right about this, there being no more use for a Melter & Refiner than for a Coiner after coinage operations have been discontinued. I accordingly second his suggestion that you address a similar request to Mr. H. B. Coleman, Jr., United States Mint, New Orleans.

Very truly yours,

Director of the Mint.

Honorable Franklin MacVeagh,
Secretary of the Treasury,
Dublin, N. H.

September 20, 1910.

The Hnorable
he Secretary of State.

Sir:

Ihave the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant relative to the amount of German gold coin melted in the mints of the United States during the calendar year 1909 as reported in a statement furnished by this Department under date of July 19, 1910. In reply you are respectfully informed that the five and ten thaler pieces are presumed to have been of the former coinage of one of the states now embraced in the German Empire.

Respectfully,

Secretary.

September 20, 1910.

Hon. George E. Roberts,
Director of the Mint.

Sir:

You are hereby authorized to visit the mints and assay offices of the United States on official business during your incumbency as Director of the Mint whenever in your opinion the interests of the service demand it.

Respectfully,

A. Piatt Andrew
Assistant Secretary.

K-

September 21, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your circular letter of the 19th instant the following statement exhibits the number of stenographers and typewriters employed in the Bureau of the Mint and the salary paid to each:-

Stenographers and Typewriters		Typewriter Only	
Names.	Salaries	Name	Salary
J. Williar Sheetz	$1,800.00		
Miss M. M. O'Reilly	$1,600.00	Mrs. H. E. Ryan	$1,200.00
O. A. Carlson	$1,400.00		

All of the persons above named are competent general clerks.

Respectfully,

A. Boston

Acting Director of the Mint.

September 23, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It becomes necessary to procure a new style of check for the use of the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York in making payment for deposits of gold bullion. I enclose herewith a draft of the exact size of check desired (8" x 3½"), the wording of which it is suggested be engraved in the same style as the Treasury Account, Cash Division. It is respectfully requested that the checks be engraved in sheets of four with duplicate printed sheets numbered to correspond, both perforated. A supply of 20,000 of such checks is desired, to be prepared by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and forwarded to the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York as early as practicable.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

Sept. 26, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury

My dear Sir:

I am forwarding herewith a letter received from the Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York in which he describes certain unsatisfactory conditions existing in the Assay Department of that institution and expresses the opinion that in order to properly reorganize that department it is necessary to ask for the resignation of the assayer, Dr. E. G. Torrey, who is a presidential official.

From my personal knowledge of Dr. Torrey's administration covering a period of years, I am convinced that the Superintendent's judgment is well founded. I am enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury July 20, 1905, in which Dr. Torrey's removal was recommended. The Secretary at that time approved of this action but owing to the action of the assistant assayer, who was slated to take the vacancy, in declining to do so, the case was not presented to the President and Dr. Torrey has held on by sufferance ever since.

It appears from the Superintendent's report that notwithstanding the warnings Dr. Torrey has repeatedly received he has failed to conform to the rules and regulations of the service relative to the transaction of outside business in his office and that he has failed to give the attention to his duties which is necessary for the proper administration of his office. I therefore beg to submit my approval

of the Superintendent's recommendation that the assayer be requested to hand in his resignation, to take effect at an early date.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

s.

(Enclosure)

October 1, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this Office for the month and quarter ended September 30, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

October 1, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In pursuance of the provisions of section twenty-five of the Act of August 28, 1894, I have the honor to present herewith a table of the estimate of the values of the standard coins of the nations of the world.

Respectfully,

Geo. E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.

October 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be prepared a bond in the sum of five thousand dollars ($5,000) to be executed by Mr. D. Todd Howbert as a Helper in the Mint of the United States at Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Howbert was appointed a helper on April 1, 1908.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

October 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars ($120,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

Octo.6,1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am enclosing herewith voucher of the Mint at Philadelphia amounting to $24.40 for the manufacture of two cases for gold scales at the Sub-Treasury in Philadelphia as authorized on request of Assistant Treasurer at Philadelphia dated August 13,1910, amount to be carried to the credit of the following appropriations:

Wages of Workmen, Mint at Philadelphia, 1911.....$18.19

Contingent Expenses, Mint at Philadelphia, 1911..... 6.21.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

(Enclosure)

, Oct. 7, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that Certificates of Deposit Nos. 365 and 366, for $919.97 and $22.94, respectively, erroneously deposited in the Treasury by H.S. Suthon, Superintendent of the United States Mint at New Orleans, La., enclosed herewith, be cancelled, and that those amounts be returned to him for restoration of his bullion fund.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

October 8,1910

The Honorable

The Secretray of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that Messrs. Coe, Magruder and Cambon, employees in the Mint at New Orleans concerning whom inquiry was made by letter from the Chief of the Division of Appointments, were changed in compensation and designation to take effect July 15,1910 as follows:-

Paul E. Coe, from Assistant Coiner at $1900 to Scale Repairer at $1200 per annum and his bond should be not in excess of $5,000.

Leonard Magruder, from Assistant Assayer at $1900 to Clerk in the Assay department at $1200 and his bond should not be in excess of $5,000.

Maurice Cambon, from Assistant Cashier at $1200 to Clerk at $1200 and his bond should be $5,000 as he acts as Chief Clerk and Acting Superintendent in the absence of the Superintendent.

Respectfully,

Geo E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.

K

October 11, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of Edward Sweeny, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco, Cal., the sum of two hundred and forty-one thousand two hundred and eighty-nine dollars and fifty-three cents ($241,289.53) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 R.S., and that the bullion fund of said mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Geo. E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.

October 11,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that a bond be prepared for Charles F. Burt, Assistant Cashier in the Assay Office of the United States at New York in the sum of $10,000. Mr. Burt was appointed to the position of Assistant Cashier January 23, 1906 and his bond was dated August 10,1906.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

K-

Oct. 18, 1910.

The Honorable,
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am forwarding herewith a letter from Mr. D. P. Kingsford, Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office, New York, in which he submits a formal recommendation that Mr. George R. Comings, at present Chief Clerk of that office, be endorsed by the Department for appointment as Assayer to succeed H. C. Torrey resigned.

Mr. Comings record of service in the New York Assay Office is set forth in the Superintendents letter and in my judgment is one which entitles him to serious consideration for the vacancy. I have personally known Mr. Comings ever since my first connection with the service, and regard him as in every way qualified for the position. I believe it is the best choice that can be made and desire to add my endorsement to that of the Superintendent.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

Enclosure.

October 26, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that blank form of bond in the sum of $5,000 be prepared to be executed by Nels A. Russell, Helper in the Mint of the United States at Denver, Colorado.

The letter of appointment of Mr. Russell was dated September 12, 1910.

Respectfully,

Geo. E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.

Octo.26,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am enclosing herewith copy of letter from the Superintendent of the Mint in Denver recommending that the request of the Climax-Denver Oil Company that their contract for supplying the Mint with certain grades of oil for the fiscal year 1911 be cancelled and inasmuch as this firm has been denied the permit to construct tanks in Denver and from the statement by the Superintendent that the government will encounter no loss from such action, I have the honor to request that authority be given to cancel such contract.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

K-

October 28, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 17th instant relative to bonds for certain employees of the Mint at New Orleans I have the honor to request that my letter of the 8th instant be amended as follows:-

Blank form of bond in the sum of three thousand dollars ($3,000) is requested to be prepared for execution by Paul E. Coe, Scale Repairer in the Mint at New Orleans. Mr. Coe was notified of his appointment as Scale Repairer under date of July 7, 1910.

Blank form of bond in the sum of five thousand dollars ($5,000) is requested to be prepared for execution by Maurice Cambon, Clerk in the Mint at New Orleans. Mr. Cambon was notified of his appointment as Clerk under date of July 7, 1910.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

Oct. 28, 1910.

Dr. A. Piatt Andrew,

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Dear Dr. Andrew:

Returning from the West I find your note of the 21st instant relative to the value of the Persian "kran" and the method upon which Departmental Circular No. 56 is made up on my desk.

The Director of the Mint has always understood that the values of foreign standard coins, as estimated in Circular No. 56, was the basis upon which values of foreign currencies were calculated, but has assumed that all invoices in currencies which varied from the standard were accompanied by consular certificates setting forth the actual value of the currency in which purchases were made. This seems to be the method contemplated by the consular regulations (see page 789 of the volume of 1896 regulations, form No. 144, "Certificate of Value of Currency;" also see paragraph 692, page 295 of the same volume.) While this regulation seems to cover only purchases when the currency is depreciated, I presume that the same method is proper when the currency is artificially maintained above the standard as in the case of the "kran." This of course, is an anomalous and unusual condition, but if the Secretary of the Treasury has authority to depart from the bullion value of

the standard coin as a measure of value at all, and he evidently has; it seems to me that the method of ascertaining the true value should be the same where that value is above the standard, as in the cases where it is below.

It is obviously only where the circular gives the standard as silver and the silver currency is held by artificial means above its bullion value that this country could be the loser under our valuation, and there are only six of these countries on the list, to wit: Guatamala, Honduras, Nicaraugua, Salvador, China and Persia. As the first four are on a paper basis we have lost nothing on imports from them. China presents another anomaly in that it can scarcely be said to have a standard coin, but silver at its bullion value is practically the standard. This leaves only Persia in which error against the government could be made by using the valuations of the circular.

Taking for instance the first country on the list, Argentine Republic - its legal standard is gold and the peso is quoted at $0.965. In fact the peso is worth only 44 cents, but the importer must pay at the former figures unless he presents a consular certificate showing the actual value. This, at any rate, is as I understand the practice to be. So in the case of Spain, to which you allude in your letter. The circular gives Spain as a gold standard country, as in fact it legally

is, the coinage of silver being on government account. The peseta is quoted at $0.193 while in fact it fluctuates very much below these figures. In taking benefit of this fact the importer must show it by consular certificate. So it is all down the list.

It does not seem to me that any change in the present practice is required except to instruct the consular agents to be more watchful in advising the Customs Service of all instances where the local currency is artificially maintained above the standard. The importer looks after the cases where the currency is depreciated. There are, as seen above, only a few countries in which the former condition could possibly exist.

I am giving below the average value of the Persian "kran" as estimated in the circular for the last five years, to wit;

1906.....	$0.08775
1907.....	.09175
1908.....	.074
1909.....	.06875
1910.....	.07075

You will observe that the value of the "kran" in 1906 and 1907 was approximately the same as your information from London shows the exchange rate to have been during the last year. The lower figures for later years have been due to the decline of silver, but apparently there has been some restriction upon the coinage of silver in Persia which has prevented the value of the "kran" from

following the price of bullion.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

November 2, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose herewith the oath of office of George R. Comings as Assayer of the United States Assay Office at New York, N. Y., bearing date of November 1st, 1910.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

November 3, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, Pa., the sum of three hundred thousand dollars ($300,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

Nov.5,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

Under date of June 30,1910 an account was forwarded to the Secretary of the Navy for 456 bronze West Indian Campaign medals amounting to $91.48, to be carried to the credit of the following appropriations:

Wages of Workmen,Mint at Philadelphia,1910.....$82.35
Contingent Expenses,Mint at Philadelphia,1910.... 9.13.

I have the honor to request that the attention of the Navy department be called to the non-settlement of this account in order if possible to carry this earning in the accounts of the Mint at Philadelphia for the fiscal year 1910.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.
K-

November 8, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

In accordance with section seven of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Act, approved March 1st, 1896, I have the honor to report that the business of this office for the month of October, 1910, is not in arrears.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

November 9,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am enclosing herewith the resignation of Harry L. Hickey, Messenger in this Bureau at $840 per annum to take effect November 7, 1910 and have the honor to respectfully recommend the promotion of Eugene L. Russell, Assistant Messenger at $720 per annum to fill this vacancy.

Mr. Russell entered the Mint service as a Helper at $500 per annum in 1886, was promoted to Assistant Messenger at $720 in 1890, and has given satisfactory and cheerful service.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

(Enclosure)

Nov. 9, 1910.

287842
288398
288858.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am enclosing herewith copy of letter received from the Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia making inquiry as to bonds for employees in that institution. The list of bonds to be executed was sent to the Secretary of the Treasury (Division of Appointments) February 16, 1910 and I have not been advised as to action.

Respectfully,

Geo. E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.
K-

(Enclosure)

November 12, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that the enclosed Certificate of Deposit, No. 3986, made by Mr. Daniel P. Kingsford, Superintendent of the U. S. Assay Office at New York, to the credit of the General Account of the Treasurer of the United States in the sum of $24.31 be cancelled for the reason that the amount was improperly deposited; the same being a refund on deposit of gold bullion No. 2419 on account of overpayment. The intention of the Superintendent of the Assay Office at New York in depositing the amount was that it should be placed by the Assistant Treasurer with other moneys to his credit on account of the bullion fund.

Respectfully,

R. B. Preston

Acting Director of the Mint.

STATEMENT OF TRAVEL AND SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH MINT SERVICE FROM WASHINGTON CHARGED TO CONTINGENT EXPENSES, OFFICE DIRECTOR OF THE MINT, 1910.

Name	Date	Destination & Business	Amount
dney, A. Piatt	Oct. 10-14, 1909	Administrative business at New York Assay Office	$45.86
do	Nov. 29-Dec. 2	Administrative business Philadelphia Mint,	24.05
do	Dec. 18-19,	do	19.90
do	Dec. 20-21,	Administrative business New York Assay Office	32.00
do	Dec. 23-Jan. 4, 1910	Inspection of Mint at Denver,	185.47
do	Jan. 15-18-, 1910	Business, New York Office	24.10
do	Jan. 25-26, "	do	20.05
do	Feb. 8-13, "	Assay Commission at Philadelphia and inspection, New York,	64.00
do	Feb. 26, 1910	Business, Philadelphia Mint,	12.30
do	Feb. 28, 1910	do	9.30
do	Mar. 18-20,	Business, New York Office	26.60
do	Mar. 28,	do	22.25
do	Apl. 27-28,	Business, Philadelphia Mint,	11.05
do	May 16-23, 1910	Business, New York Office	28.05
erton, G. D., Asst. Secretary,	Aug. 9-14, 1909	Business, New York Office	27.55
do	Jan. 7-10, 1910	Partial expenses in Chicago on Denver Mint business,	15.00
ock, D. W., Clerk, Auditor's office,	July 1-3, 1909	Partial expenses, Annual Settlement, Mint at New Orleans,	8.85
do	Aug. 26, 1909	Pullman, New Orleans to Washington,	6.50
do	July 1, 1909	Railroad fare, Washington to New Orleans,	27.50

Carlson, C. A., Clerk Bureau of Mint	July 1-8,1909	Annual Settlement, Philadelphia Mint, Fiscal year, 1909	$22.97
do	July 8-15,1909	do	38.57
do	Aug. 26 "	Pullman fare, Philadelphia to Washington	.75
do	June 22-30, 1910	Settlement, Mint at Denver, 1910	44.75
do	June 8- "	Railroad fare, Washington to Denver, including Pullman/	50.10
Richmond, E.E., Clerk Bureau of the Mint	July 1-9,1909	Settlement, New York Fiscal year, 1909	41.81
do	July 8, 1909	Railroad fare and Pullman, New York-Washington	6.90
do	June 26-30,1910	Settlement, Philadelphia Fiscal year, 1910	24.57
do	June 26 "	Railroad fare, Washington to Philadelphia and return	6.80
Hannan, A. A., Clerk, Bureau of the Mint	July 1-20,1909	Settlement, Mint at Denver, Fiscal year, 1909,	54.95
do	July 19 "	Railroad fare and Pullman, Washington to Denver,	50.60
Van Arsdale, J.S., Clerk, Division of Warrants, Treas. Dept.	July 1-25 "	Settlement, Mint at San Francisco, Fiscal year, 1909	47.85
do	Aug. 26 "	Pullman, San Francisco to Portland, Chicago to Washington,	9.50
Preston, R. B., Examiner, Bureau of the Mint	Aug. 10, 1909	Business connected with Mint at Philadelphia	19.90
Weldon, Samuel A. Secretary's office	Nov. 19 "	Business, New York Office	15.50
Kelly, M. V., Adjuster of Accounts, Bureau of the Mint,	Feb. 23-25,1910 " 27	Administrative account business, Philadelphia Mint,	41.30
do	Apl. 18-19, 1910	do	21.35
do	June 22, 1910	do	9.10
Rowan, James D., Clerk in Auditor for the War Department	June 22-30, 1910	Settlement Mint at Denver, Fiscal year, 1910	96.90
Port, George, Clerk, Office of Treasurer	June 26-30, 1910	Settlement Philadelphia Mint, Fiscal year 1910	24.55

Butler, B. F., Computer of Bullion, Bureau of the Mint	July 18-1909	Accounts, New York Office Railroad fare	5.65
do	July 18- "	Accounts, New York Office Railroad fare,	5.65
Dewey, F.P., Assayer, Bureau of the Mint	May 19, 1910	Laboratory work, Mint at Philadelphia,	10.23
Slater, L. L., Private Secretary, Director of the Mint,	July 1,10,1909	Expenses in San Francisco	16.35

November 19, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and ninety thousand dollars ($190,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five cent nickel pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

November 25,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I am enclosing herewith letter received from the Manager of the Fidelity Department of the Aetna Indemnity Co. relative to bonds for certain of the employees in the Assay Office at Seattle as information covering the inquiry is kept in the Office of the Secretary(Division of Appointments).

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.
K

(Enclosure)

November 26, 1910.

American Smelting & Refining Company,

New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

In addition to Mr. Mindeleff's examination of the methods employed in receiving and handling the gold and silver bullion by the mints at Denver and San Francisco this Department is desirous that he should stop at Salt Lake City, Utah, either en route to San Francisco or upon his return, to make an examination into the general operations of the United States Assay Office in that city. Will you kindly authorize Mr. Mindeleff to perform this service. Payment covering the expenses of this examination will be made in the same manner as for the examination of the mints.

Respectfully,

Franklin MacVeagh

Secretary.

November 30, 1910.

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars ($120,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of five cent nickel and one cent bronze pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of that institution be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Geo E Roberts

Director of the Mint.

December 5, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of Frank M. Downer, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Denver, Colorado, the sum of one hundred and twenty-six thousand four hundred and eighty-eight dollars and thirty-eight cents ($126,488.38) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 R. S., and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

December 6, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars ($125,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of that institution be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

A. O. Burton

Acting Director of the Mint.

December 9,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that Charles W. Edwards, Assistant Messenger in the office of the Auditor for the Interior be transferred to the position of Assistant Messenger in this Bureau, made vacant by the promotion of E. L. Russell on November 23,1910.

Respectfully,

R. O. Preston

Acting Director of Mint.

E.

December 10,1910

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that new bonds be prepared for the following employees in the Mint at Denver in the sums opposite their respective names:-

Winter F. Bowen, Assistant Assayer.....$5,000.
Date of Appointment to this position
April 1,1905.

Benno P. Wirth, Foreman of Refinery.....$10,000.
Date of appointment to above position
July 1,1905.

Bonds for the above named persons were approved November 15,1909 but they have made request for new bonds for the reason that better terms have been offered to them and the Surety Companies have signified their willingness to accept a pro rata payment of premium to the date of execution.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

K-

December 12, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent, U. S. Mint, Philadelphia, the sum of one hundred and twenty-six thousand four hundred and ten dollars and eighty-three cents ($126,410.83) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased in this amount.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of Edward Sweeny, Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, the sum of forty-two thousand two hundred and thirteen dollars and eighty cents ($42,213.80) on account of the profits on the coinage of subsidiary silver coin from bullion purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes, and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased in this amount.

Respectfully,

Geo. E. Roberts

Director of the Mint.

December 12, 1910

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of Edward Sweeny, Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco, the sum of fourteen thousand dollars ($14,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze pieces, and that the Minor Coinage Recoinage Account of said Mint be increased in like amount.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

December 16, 1910.

The Honorable
The Postmaster-General.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant enclosing a communication from Mr. J. C. Ackley of Georgetown, California, under date of November 24th relative to the action of the Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at San Francisco in declining to send his representative to the Post Office for registered packages containing bullion forwarded by Mr. Ackley to him.

Section 3506 Revised Statutes provides that "The Superintendent of each mint shall receive and safely keep until legally withdrawn all moneys or bullion which shall be for the use or the expenses of the Mint. He shall receive all bullion brought to the Mint for assay or coinage; shall be the keeper of all bullion or coin in the Mint except while the same is legally in the hands of other officers, and shall deliver all coin struck at the Mint to the persons to whom they shall be legally payable."

It is the opinion of this Department that under the provisions of the Revised Statutes quoted the Superintendent of the Mint at San Francisco is not required to assume any

responsibility for bullion sent him per registered mail by sending a representative to the Post Office to receive and receipt for the bullion. He is required to receive bullion actually delivered to him at the Mint by the owner or his agent when the bullion is immediately weighed and a receipt given for the same.

As requested the correspondence in this case is returned herewith.

Respectfully,

Secretary.

December 22, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury, in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint of the United States at Philadelphia, the sum of seventy thousand dollars ($70,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces, and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Acting Director of the Mint.

December 17, 1910.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury.

Sir:

I have the honor to request that you will cause to be deposited in the Treasury in the name of John H. Landis, Superintendent of the Mint at Philadelphia, the sum of ninety thousand dollars ($90,000) on account of the profits on the coinage of one-cent bronze and five-cent nickel pieces and that the minor coinage recoinage account of said Mint be increased in that amount.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

December 29, 1910.

the deposit and

r should be made without

o enable the Superintendent

shipment of silver coin.

Director of the Mint.

ary of the Treasury.

honor to request that you will cause to be de-

Treasury in the name of Frank M. Downer, Super-

e Mint of the United States at Denver, Colorado,

hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) on account

on the coinage of subsidiary silver from bullion

purchased under the provisions of Section 3526 Revised Statutes,

and that the bullion fund of said Mint be increased by a trans-

fer of this amount. Advice of deposit and transfer to be made by

wire.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint.

Dec. 31, 1910.

m. J. F. Curtis,

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury

ear Mr. Curtis:

I am returning Mr. Loeb's letter herewith. You are orrect in your understanding of my definition of a "standard" coin, amely, that it must circulate at its bullion value, hence there is o such thing as a depreciated standard coin. The silver Kran has ecome a token coin.

In view of what the Collector says of the practice pursued think you will have no trouble in making valuations under the table s now given.

Respectfully,

Director of the Mint

Enclosure)